

Morecambe Road School

Homework Policy – March 2024

Rationale

The aim of the Homework Policy is to promote learning at home as an essential part of good education. Homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes they need for successful lifelong learning. It supports the development of independent learning skills, including the habits of enquiry and investigation.

Purpose

- To provide opportunities for parents, pupils and the school to work together in partnership;
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy the learning experience;
- To establish effective homework practices early on and to develop these across the key stages;
- To support pupils through transitional links to the Secondary Phase;
- To establish homework as an integral part of the curriculum;
- To raise attainment and to ensure progression towards independence and individual learning;
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own;
- To open up areas of study and to make possible the use of materials and sources available outside the classroom;
- To encourage students to talk, discuss and research using the rich variety of resources which our community can provide.

Tasks / Activities

Tasks and activities will be wide-ranging, structured and will be relevant to the pupil's needs. Homework will be coordinated and monitored by class teachers or subject teachers. Completion of homework will be monitored.

Homework can take a variety of forms, including:

- Writing tasks;
- Reading;
- Learning – for example: facts, vocabulary, spellings;
- Completing coursework;

- Research;
- Drawing or design work;
- Preparing for discussions or presentations;
- On-line learning;
- Answering questions;
- Completing worksheets;
- Revising for tests and exams.

Incentives

High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class. Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Bonus points or postcards home may be awarded for good homework.

Responsibilities

The role of the pupil

- To listen to homework instructions in class;
- To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date;
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline;
- To attempt all work and try their best.

The role of the Form Tutor / Class Teacher

- To include homework in pupil mentoring where appropriate;
- To see that homework is being set and recorded;
- The class teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken.

The teacher will:

- Set homework according to the timetable;
- Ensure the Curriculum Overview is updated termly on the school website as a point of reference for parents. This provides details of learning taking place across the curriculum;
- Give full and comprehensive instructions;
- Set deadlines for completed work;
- Provide help and support.

The role of the Parent/Carer

The role of the parent/carers is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents/Carers can assist by:

- Providing a quiet place to work;
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks;
- Checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to school;
- Providing the school with information about any problems with the homework;

The expectation of the length of homework will depend on: the curriculum time for each subject; the nature of the work; the ability of the pupil, and the particular Year Group.

Specific details of homework for each phase follow.

Equal Opportunities

The governors and staff are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils regardless of gender, disability, and ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have access to the curriculum, and the right to a learning environment, which dispels ignorance, prejudice or stereotyping.

Recommended Time Allocation

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task and also it should encompass a weekend, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spellings and times tables.

The following are recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities:

Year Group	Time	Activities
Reception Year 1 & 2	Up to 30 minutes per week	Reading or a reading activity. Additional activities such as flash cards, tricky words etc. Maths if consolidation is needed.
Year 3 & 4	Up to 45 minutes per week	Reading and reading related tasks. Maths. Topic work.

Year 5 & 6	Up to 1 hour per week	Reading and reading related tasks. Maths. Topic work or research.
Years 7 - 11	Up to 45 minutes per day	Reading and reading related tasks. Maths. Topic work. Course work.

Reading homework will be given on the day the pupil has read in class. The reading diary will be checked by the class teacher on a daily basis. It plays a key role in home/school communication. We would expect pupils to be reading at home at least 3 times per week.

Approved by the Full Governing Body of Morecambe Road School on 27.3.24

Signed:Chair of Governors

Signed:Headteacher