

Laughton All Saints' C of E Primary School

Policy for: Homework



Philosophy

We believe that children should be encouraged to become independent learners. By offering them a range of appropriate activities to complete out of school hours, we are enabling them to develop their self discipline, self confidence and the organisational skills necessary for continuing and extending their learning.

We encourage positive partnerships between school and parents / carers, which enhance the child's learning and ensure that effective use is made of all available resources in order to achieve optimum success. This policy will be used alongside the Home School Agreement policy. This policy supports our vision, which incorporates: 'Children try their best, have aspirations for a fulfilled future and we hope to encourage in them a life long love of learning.'

Aims

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in English and Mathematics;
- To develop and support an effective partnership between school and parents / carers;
- To make effective and efficient use of all available resources for learning;
- To develop children's independence and responsibility in their learning;
- To encourage children to develop long term strategies for their future learning needs (confidence, self discipline etc.);
- To encourage a lifelong love of learning and aspiration as future citizens.

Objectives

School will:

- endeavour to meet the needs of the child by regularly setting a variety of homework activities at an appropriate level;
- offer feedback on the child's performance;
- guide parents in supporting their child;
- celebrate the child's achievements.

Parents will be asked to:

- show an interest in what their child has been asked to do;
- encourage their child to complete any homework within the set timescale;
- give praise for completing tasks;
- provide a suitable setting in which their child may work at home. Settings need to be peaceful with little or no distractions for the child.

Children will be expected to:

- take responsibility for their learning;
- complete their homework within the timescale.

Range of Activities

All children have a Maths Passport and parents are asked to help them practise this in order to secure key number facts. This should take place little and often. (We suggest five minutes a day.)

Times Tables Rockstars can be accessed on laptops and tablets, at school and at home. All pupils from Y1 to Y6 have a login. Teachers can set specific times tables for children to practise and monitor their progress and speed online. Leaderboards are celebrated in classes and assembly as an incentive for pupils.

Children in the Juniors have a Spelling Zapper to support them in learning the spelling rules and Key Stage 2 level spellings. Weekly spellings are also sent home. These follow a rule or pattern and the weekly test will include some 'mystery' words to ensure that they can apply these rules independently.

Children in Key Stage 2 are given a new homework 'menu' each half term. This menu offers a range of homework tasks to be completed, as per the child's choices and interests. Tasks are related to current learning topics, to provide research opportunities or the application of new skills. They include a range of written and creative tasks to suit varying learning styles and are grouped into 1, 2 or 3 point challenges. Children are expected to complete at least one challenge a week. This provides more flexibility for parents when some weekends are busier than others. Children who achieve the target of 15 points or more in a half term are praised in assembly and awarded a certificate.

Children in class 4 are provided with a reading text each Thursday. They are expected to read this text before the whole class reading, the following Thursday. They are encouraged to share the text with an adult and can earn homework points for additional work (looking up unknown words, answering questions about the text, further research).

Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1

- Simple games such as 'I Spy', phonics flashcards
- Reading real and alien words using phonics knowledge
- Practise spellings
- Learn number language
- Learn multiplication tables - 2, 5, 10
- Reading – discuss the book to demonstrate their understanding of what they have read.

Key Stage 2

- Learn spellings and the application of rules to new words
- Learn number facts including measure conversions (millilitres in a litre etc)
- Learn multiplication tables – play on TT Rockstars if accessible
- Reading – discuss unknown words, research definitions, summarise what they have read
- Consolidation of class learning.
- Researching information (using reference books / materials)
- Written assignments
- Book reviews
- Reading in preparation for a lesson
- Preparing for oral presentations