

**Aston by Sutton Primary School**

Homework Policy

Last updated: December 2023

**AIMS**

Homework is an important habit to engender in children if they are to ensure that their learning follows them everywhere. It takes many forms and is best developed as a partnership between the parent and child with school providing guidance and suggested activities that will encourage the child’s own thinking and understanding. Homework is more than a collection of tasks set by the teacher to be completed at home. Homework will always have an important purpose and will be designed to be meaningful and to support learning. Much of the homework will be focussed around basic skills, reading, spelling and times tables.

Through this policy we aim to:

* Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
* Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
* Use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
* Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
* Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children’s learning.
* Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
* Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
* To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
* Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
* To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

**HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES AND TIMINGS**

Homework can be set in many different forms with a variety of expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that the nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupil’s school career with amount and frequency increasing as the pupil gets older. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.

We currently follow government recommended time allocations for homework activities. These are outlined below:

Years R, 1 and 2 – up to 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4 – up to 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6 – up to 2.5 hours per week

Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

**All pupils are expected to read daily at home.**

Within Reception, children will be expected to develop good reading habits. This involves reading to your child, talking about books and other environmental print. They will also have a sound book that is to be completed on a weekly basis. Letters and words to be learnt will also be sent home.

During Year One and Two children will still be expected to read regularly, at least 5 times a week, with reading diaries updated by parents and teachers. There will be extension activities focusing on basic literacy and numeracy skills, with some project work being sent home to develop independent research skills.

Throughout Key Stage 2 the intensity and frequency of homework will increase. They will be expected to continue to read at home, learn table facts and spellings and may complete supplementary activities. Year 6 will have supplementary activities to prepare them for their Key Stage 2 SATs.

**ROLE OF THE CLASS TEACHER**

Each teacher will develop a routine of homework that complements the curriculum and timetable being followed in their class. They will ensure that this routine is communicated to parents and pupils at the start of the year. Any changes to routines will be made clear to parents and pupils at the earliest opportunity.

Tasks set by the teacher will be communicated through Dojo. Homework will be marked regularly and information about the pupil’s understanding will be acted upon as necessary.

If homework is not completed, the teacher may direct the child to complete part or all of the homework task during play/lunch times. This will be communicated with parents and strategies shared to support the completion of future homework.

**ROLE OF PARENTS/CARERS**

In order for homework to be a positive experience for both parent and child then it needs to be seen as partnership with school. Make time and space to support your child in attempting their homework. Encourage and praise your child as they complete each task or part of the task.

At Aston, we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. There are times when we will want to see what children can do by themselves. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher. Any concerns about homework should be addressed with the class teacher in the first instance.

**INCLUSION**

We aim to provide for all children, regardless of gender, ethnicity or home background, so homework is differentiated, where applicable, to allow each pupil to achieve.

**CONCLUSION**

This policy should also be read in conjunction with the following policies:

Teaching and Learning Policy

Special Educational Needs Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy

This policy will be reviewed every three years or in the light of changes to legal requirements.

Member of staff responsible: Mrs A Plant

Date policy reviewed: December 2023

Date to be reviewed: September 2026