



Homework Policy Statement

As each child progresses through Fairfield Primary School it is intended that they take work home periodically. The amount and regularity of this depends on the stage the child has reached in school. After full discussion with staff it has been decided to formulate a structure for this and to determine certain aims for work which the structure will support. In this way it is hoped that work at home will enhance the school's in-school curriculum and the school aims of achieving high standards. It is intended that the work set will achieve the following whole school aims:

1. To reinforce work covered within the class, especially if aspects of the work have proved difficult.
2. To revise work previously covered.
3. To extend children's learning through the development of research and study skills.
4. To help form disciplined attitudes to working at home including self motivation and perseverance.
5. To encourage children to address themselves to the process of organisation of work at home. To work within a time limit and develop the discipline of handing work in on time.
6. To involve parents in the work that children are doing in school and so further encourage effective home/school links, so that the school and home form a working partnership to improve individual standards of work.
7. To help parents to be aware on an on-going basis of the standards that their child is attaining.
8. To prepare children for a 'formal' homework system at KS3.
9. To provide further opportunities to develop Key Skills at home.
10. To encourage and foster equal opportunities for all irrespective of gender, origin, race, SEN or social group.

Key Stage 1

- a) Close home/school links exist at this stage and it is intended to involve parents as fully as possible in their child's education. This will be done partly through a Home/ School Reading Structure whereby books are taken home for the child to read with the parent. These books are not the actual books the child reads in school but are from a structured reading scheme running parallel to the main school scheme. Progress through this is monitored by parents and class teachers. Some children may progress to school Lending Library.
- b) Phonic or spelling lists will be sent home in addition to reading books. In Years 1 and 2 parents will be asked to sign a sheet to acknowledge that they have seen the work sent home, and the teacher will be able to comment if work has not been received on time, is not satisfactory or is particularly pleasing, in order that parents can monitor progress.
Additional homework linked to Curriculum work will be sent home. Reception – where appropriate. Year 1 and 2 – on a weekly basis.

Key Stage 2

- a) Weekly spelling lists are given to most KS2 children to learn at home for a weekly test.
- b) The school lending library system provides for children to take books home to read, children experiencing reading difficulties will continue for a time on the structured. Home Reading programmes established at KS1.
- c) Each child is given a homework folder which is sent home with work weekly. The return day is left to the teacher's discretion.
- d) The main focus of the work sent home will be literacy and numeracy although at times other curriculum areas will be included.
- e) Parents will be asked to sign a sheet to acknowledge that they have seen the work sent home, and the teacher will be able to comment if work has not been received on time, is not satisfactory or is particularly pleasing, in order that parents can monitor progress.

It may prove necessary at times for a class teacher to give an individual child some extra work at home. This may be because:

- a) The child has not completed a task set in school through inappropriate use of time.
- b) The child has not grasped a particular concept and therefore needs reinforcement.
- c) The child needs constant practice in developing a skill – handwriting.

This system must remain flexible and at the discretion of the class teacher.

Each year, at the October Parents' Evening, teachers will give parents details of the type and amount of homework that will be set. Teachers will also explain how parents can be involved in supporting their children and will answer any queries or concerns parents might have. Homework will be marked each week and a progress sheet completed in order that parents can monitor their child's progress.

It is hoped that the school's policy of working at home will help each child to develop a disciplined approach to work with the support of their parents, and will further parental involvement in the child's progress at school. It is also hoped that it will contribute to the school's overall aims of achieving high educational standards.

Homework is set weekly and sometimes over holidays. Outlined below is a structure which gives parents an idea of what to expect at each stage of their child's schooling. There may be some variations from this from time to time at the teacher's discretion.

Reception

- Home Reading
- One or two activity sheets for parents to complete with their child

Year 1 and 2 (1 hour per week)

- Home Reading Book to be read with parents
- Weekly spellings
- One curriculum based activity

Year 3 and 4 (1½ hours per week)

- Weekly spellings (½ hour)
- Curriculum based activity (approx. 1 hour)

Year 5 and 6 (2 hours per week)

- Weekly spellings (½ hour)
- Curriculum based Activity (1½ hours)
- Numeracy

In addition

Year 6

- A project to encourage independent learning will be set in the Spring term to be completed over several months. This will be completed at home but with regular input and advice from school.