



Upper Beeding Primary School

# Homework Policy

October 2023

Learning at home is an essential part of the good education to which all our children are entitled. Research has shown that homework makes an important contribution to pupils' progress at school.

## Homework:

- Reinforces and extends learning in the classroom
- Brings teachers, parents and children into a closer working partnership
- Helps children to develop independent learning skills and attitudes

## Aims:

Through implementation of this policy, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- Encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, self-discipline and motivation needed to study on their own and prepare them for the next phase of education
- Make set homework relevant and meaningful for the child linked to work done at school
- Make expectations about homework clear to children, parents and other carers
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school

## Responsibilities:

**Class Teachers** are responsible for team planning, setting and checking homework and providing regular feedback. They are responsible for ensuring homework set is differentiated to support the learning of every child.

**Parents** are responsible for encouraging children to do their homework in a suitable, quiet place and for checking their child's homework books / Google Classroom.

**Children** are responsible for carrying out homework to the best of their abilities and in Key Stage Two being fully aware of what is set and to know where to check if unsure (e.g. Google Classroom, class teacher)

The **Year Group Teachers** are responsible for monitoring the homework set in each age group.

The **Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)** is responsible for consulting with class teachers concerning differentiated homework for children with ILPs.

The **Head Teacher and Governors** are responsible for developing and reviewing the homework policy each year and for organising any meetings and/or workshops which support parental understanding of their child's education.

**Why do we value homework?**

Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. By valuing home-school learning, pupils are afforded the chance to practise skills, consolidate understanding of work covered in the classroom and to widen their own interests. Moreover, developing good study habits provides an opportunity for pupils to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

**Homework Programme:**

Regular reading is vital throughout primary school and our key belief is that **all our children should read every day at home** with their parents/carers, or on their own if they are fluent readers. This can be an adult sharing a book or a bedtime story talking about what has been read, the characters or story. Reading other material is also valuable and supports children's development of reading and language skills.

A Reading Record from Early Years (EY) to Year 2 is sent home from school and we ask parents to comment in there at least once a week. The more fluent readers are encouraged to comment on what they are reading themselves. Staff will comment in the Reading Record weekly and it is a useful source of communication.

In Year 3 and 4 children complete 'Book Bingo' which is a reading initiative to encourage reading. The focus for each term changes, for example in 'Places and People' children have set places and people they need to be seen reading to/at. On achieving 'Bingo', the children will receive a certificate, a reading leaf and a house point.

In Year 5 and 6 children have their reading recorded in the back of their Guided Reading book. Therefore, reading runs right through our homework programme from Early Years to Year 6. Other homework is added according to the age of the children.

Early Years

Daily reading

Weekly phonics

Weekly language, number and topic ideas for activities to do at home

Year 1 and 2

Daily reading

Weekly phonics/differentiated spellings/grammar (up to 15 mins)

A weekly maths activity or maths game (up to 15 mins)

Practice of multiplication tables

Fortnightly topic activity (up to 20 mins)

Year 3 and 4

Daily reading

Weekly differentiated spellings

Practice of multiplication / division tables

Weekly maths activity (up to 30 mins)

Fortnightly topic activity – from Homework Grid (up to 40 mins)

Year 5 and 6

Weekly differentiated spellings

Weekly grammar activity (up to 45 minutes)

Weekly maths activity (up to 45 minutes)

Fortnightly research / extension of topic work – from Homework Grid (1 hour)

(Weekly multiplication / division tables – for children still not secure in recall)

From the Spring Term onwards, Year 6 pupils will also be set SATs revision tasks as homework.

We use a variety of resources and activities when setting homework. Tasks may be written, practical or online (Google Classroom) depending on the independent skills to be shown.

Key Stage Two pupils have the opportunity to attend a lunchtime club if they would prefer to complete their homework tasks in school. This is held either in the computer suites or a designated classroom.

Children are not expected to complete unfinished homework tasks during the school day (e.g. break and lunchtimes) however if there is a concern about the amount or quality of homework a pupil is submitting, the class teacher will contact their parent to discuss ways in which we can support them.

If a pupil is absent from school over an extended period, homework tasks will be sent via Google Classroom or as a hard copy for collection from the School Office.

Reviewed, Adopted and Ratified by:

Staff	September 2023
Governing Body	October 2023
Date for Review	October 2024