Heritage Park Primary School

Homework Policy

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Introduction

At Heritage Park Primary School, we recognise that homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at school. There are significant benefits when children spend regular periods of time engaged in learning activities that support and reinforce the work they complete in class.

We believe that homework provides a valuable opportunity for children to share with their parents and carers what they have been learning at school.

The School's Approach

We believe that parental involvement is essential in all aspects of the educational process. The role of a supportive parent or carer includes encouragement and active involvement in helping children with specific home learning tasks.

Upon starting at Heritage Park Primary School, parents and carers are required to sign a home–school–child agreement, which states their commitment to supporting their child with homework and other home learning opportunities.

By following established homework routines, children can develop good study habits and improve their personal time-management skills. In addition, homework enables parents and carers to become actively involved in their child's learning by helping to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Mathematics.

Content of homework

The content of homework varies between year groups as follows:

Early Years	• To practise phonics sounds taught in school each day, using their sound book throughout the year. • Once a reading book has been allocated, to read their school book, for 10 minutes five times a week, in addition to continuing to practise their phonics. Online reading diaries are used to log at least three of your child's reading sessions at home. • Once a fortnight, to complete a short paper-based maths task for your child to hand in or upload to Tapestry.
Year 1	• To read for 10 minutes five times a week. Online reading diaries are used to log your child's reading at home. • To learn 10 spellings each week. A written copy of each week's spelling list will be included in homework books and also available to practise on Spelling Shed (set on a Friday and tested on a Friday) • To complete a written maths task, included in homework books.

Year 2	• To read for 10 minutes five times a week. Online reading diaries are used to log at least three of your child's reading sessions at home. • To learn 10 spellings each week. A written copy of each week's spelling list will be included in homework books and also available to practise on Spelling Shed (set on a Friday and tested on a Friday). • To complete a written maths task, included in homework books.
Year 3	• To read for 10 minutes five times a week. Online reading diaries are used to log at least three of your child's reading sessions at home. • To learn 10 spellings each week. A written copy of each week's spelling list will be included in homework books and also available to practise on Spelling Shed (set on a Friday and tested on a Friday) • To complete a written maths task, included in homework books.
Year 4	• To read for 15 minutes five times a week. Online reading diaries are used to log at least three of your child's reading sessions at home. • To learn 10 spellings each week. A written copy of each week's spelling list will be included in homework books and also available to practise on Spelling Shed (set on a Friday and tested on a Friday) • To complete a written maths task, included in homework books.
Year 5	• To read for 15 minutes five times a week. Online reading diaries are used to log at least three of your child's reading sessions at home. • To learn 10 spellings each week. A written copy of each week's spelling list will be included in homework books and also available to practise on Spelling Shed (set on a Friday and tested on a Friday) • To complete a written maths task, included in homework books.
Year 6	• To read for 15 minutes five times a week. Online reading diaries are used to log at least three of your child's reading sessions at home. • To learn 10 spellings each week. A written copy of each week's spelling list will be included in homework books and also available to practise on Spelling Shed (set on a Friday and tested on a Friday) • To complete a written maths task, included in homework books.

Suggested online resources for additional maths practice:

- Reception: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=1

- KS1: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=2
- KS2: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=3
- Year 1 onwards: https://www.mathshed.com/en-gb
- Year 2 onwards: https://www.timestables.co.uk/
- Year 2 onwards: http://www.timestables.me.uk/
- Year 3 onwards: http://www.emile.co.uk

The role of the school

Class teachers are responsible for setting, monitoring, and reviewing homework. They will provide additional guidance and support for parents and carers where appropriate.

Children who do not complete their spelling or mathematics homework will miss 10 minutes of playtime. If a child's online reading log is not updated for a period of two weeks or more, the child will spend 10 minutes of one playtime practising their reading.

Teachers will liaise with parents and carers where there is a persistent lack of homework completion to ensure that appropriate support is put in place and improvement is made.

Children will bring their spelling books home on a Friday following their weekly spelling test, allowing parents and carers to review their child's progress. These books should be returned promptly after the weekend.

The role of parents

- Upon enrolment at school, parents and carers sign an agreement to, 'Support my child in homework and other opportunities for home-learning'
- Parents should ensure they provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do his or her homework.
- Parents should encourage their child to produce the highest quality of work that he or she is capable of and offer support as required.
- Parents should support the school by showing children that they value homework.
- To ensure homework is completed in a timely manner and that homework and spelling books are returned to school each week.

Special needs

If appropriate, homework will be set in accordance with a child's individual targets, as laid out in his or her Personal Support Plan (PSP) and/or Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). A child may have personalised spellings set if this is in accordance with their additional provision and has been agreed between the class teacher and SENCO.

Conclusion

By following this policy, we aim to foster a responsible attitude towards personal study. Such habits should prove invaluable as preparation for further education. Furthermore, home/school liaison will be strengthened.