

LORD DERAMORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

What is Homework?

The term 'homework' refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

Aims

Through this policy we aim to

- Encourage independence, resourcefulness and responsibility
- Foster positive attitudes towards learning outside the school environment
- Extend and support the learning of our children
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work together in partnership
- Ensure that parents/pupils/teachers have a clear understanding within the homework partnership
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning
- Ensure children are given the opportunity to be participants in their learning at home and at school

The Purpose of Homework

Homework at Lord Deramore's School varies according to the child's stage of development. The purpose is to extend the learning of the classroom and to form a link between home and school – so parents can be involved and informed about their child's learning.

In Early Years

The purpose of homework is to provide opportunities for parents/carers to support their children in practising the key skills they need in order to further their on-going development. It establishes the relationship between home and school as joint educators and highlights learning as being a continuous process.

In Key Stage One

The purpose of homework is to enhance our parent/school relationship providing opportunities for children to practise key skills in a supportive environment.

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In Key Stage Two

The purpose of homework is to encourage independent learning. We actively encourage children to develop the skill of studying on their own (which is starting to be developed in LKS2); to plan and research as part of the Key Stage Two curriculum. Homework should inform learning.

By the time children reach Year 6 they will be asked to research/study on their own on a weekly basis.

The Type and Amount of Homework

The precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of tasks set and the way in which they are planned into the curriculum to support learning.

Where homework is done together with an adult, the adult is encouraged to give verbal or a written comment, perhaps in the pupil's planner. Feedback is dependent on the task that has been undertaken. Communication between home and school is vital.

Special Educational Needs

Homework will be adapted for children with SEND when appropriate.

Weekly Homework

Early Years

Children are encouraged to share books with parents/carers on a regular basis as both readers and listeners. We expect children to change their reading book twice a week in order to maintain good progress. Home reading is to be recorded in each child's planner.

A half-termly homework menu will give a variety of tasks which might include -

- Practising a skill covered in class e.g. accurate counting
- Talking about a topic or event e.g. what, and how, a child celebrates with their family
- Preparing something to bring in to school e.g. a life cycle to discuss/show to the class

The menu will be sent out via parent pay at the start of each half term. They are practical/play-based where possible and designed to fit easily into family life. We know that young children can be tired at the end of the school day so understand that some days children will not do any homework.

Key Stage One

Children will be set the following homework each week:

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Reading: 5-10 minutes a day Parents make a note in their child's planner when they have heard them read and write "ready to change" when they are ready for a new book.

Spellings: 5 minutes a day

Menu homework: Approx 15 minutes a week

In Year 2 maths homework will consist of half termly key facts to practise and Mathletics. Other maths activities will be included on the menu.

A menu of activities will be provided at the start of each half term with a variety of Maths, English and topic based activities on it. These activities may take a number of different forms such as oral discussion, games, websites to explore, mental maths or written challenges. The menu will be sent out via parent pay at the start of each half term. We understand that children may be tired at the end of the day or have other activities, so would expect children to read and complete spellings at least 3 times a week.

Key Stage Two

In Key Stage Two children will be set the following homework each week

Year 3 and 4

Reading: each week night.	10 minutes
Spellings: each week night.	10minutes
Maths	20 minutes
Menu homework:	Approx 30 minutes

In Year 3 and 4 maths homework will consist of half termly key facts to practise and Mathletics. Other maths activities will be included on the menu.

Year 5 and 6

Reading: each week night.	15 minutes
Spellings:	10 minutes
Maths	20-30 minutes
Menu homework:	Approx 30 minutes

In Year 5 and 6 maths homework will be set to support the learning in the classroom. It may include the use of Mathletics and practising of key facts.

The menu of activities will contain a variety of activities for children to choose from. This allows for parents/carers and children to plan which activities they do around their other activities. Parents/ Carers are encouraged to make comments in reading records and planners, and to sign the homework menu where necessary.

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Approved by FGB

Meeting Date 30 November 2016