

# LORD DERAMORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Homework Policy

February 2023

### 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, carers, pupils and school to work together in partnership
- Ensure that parents, carers, pupils and teachers have a clear understanding within the homework partnership
- Provide opportunities for parents, carers 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 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 that parents/carers can be involved and informed about their child's learning.

#### **In Phase 1**

The purpose of homework is to provide opportunities for parents and carers to support their children in practising their reading, the key skill 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 Phase 2**

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

#### **In Phase 3**

The purpose of homework is to continue to practise key skills as well as to encourage independent learning.

### 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. For children with special educational needs, homework will be adapted when appropriate.

With homework that practises and reinforces key skills, such as reading and maths, should be completed as regularly as possible. Reading is recorded in the planner, with parents/carers commenting on how well their child has read. Teachers/teaching assistants check the planners regularly.

Maths and menu homework is shared weekly in school. Time on TTRockstars is checked by the class teacher via the website. Time is set aside each week where children can share their menu homework (including a verbal report of what they have done.)

Acknowledgement and feedback is verbal or with the use of a sticker.

## **Weekly Homework**

### **Phase 1**

Children bring home 2 books each week. One is a library book which is for families to read to and discuss with their child. This book is intended to foster reading for pleasure. The other is a book from our reading scheme which the child will have read in school three times. The purpose of this book is for families to celebrate their child's progress in independent reading.

A termly homework menu gives ideas of educational activities which families may wish to complete at home.

### **Phase 2**

Children bring home 2 books. One is a library book; at the start of Phase 2, parents might read this book to their children but overtime this will become a book they read to themselves. This book is intended to foster reading for pleasure. Children will also bring home a reading book. For some children this will be a Little Wandle book and for others, who are fluent at Phase 5 phonics, it will be a book from our wider reading scheme.

A termly homework menu gives ideas of educational activities which families may wish to complete at home. Sometimes children will be given specific, individual homework to practise key skills they have been learning in class.

Children are asked to spend time each week on Numbots or TTRockstars to practise recall of number facts. At times throughout the year, additional maths homework may be set that practises a key skill that has recently been taught in class.

### **Phase 3**

Children will bring home 1 or 2 books. Children still working on the reading scheme, will have a scheme book plus a library book. Children no longer on the reading scheme will have a library book, plus a reading book either from home or from the library. Their reading book and library book may be the same book.

Children have a TTRockstars account which can be accessed at home. Children should practise their times tables regularly each week. In addition, there will be occasional

maths homework set that practises key skills or revises a unit just taught in class. Children will be given time to complete the work at home and then it should be returned to school to discuss as a class.

A termly homework menu suggests activities that can be done to reinforce the topic being taught in school. The activities will be a mix of research, talking, creating and presenting. Children are invited to share their homework with their class each week and return the menu sheet at the end of the term with the activities completed marked off.

Approved by Curriculum Committee - 27th February 2023