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## Homework Policy

### Intent

At Tonacliffe Primary School we believe education is a shared responsibility between home and school and the assistance of parents/guardians is essential to ensure that children are able to perform to the best of their ability. Homework provides opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning. It enables children to practice and consolidate skills, and aims to broaden the context of learning and provide enrichment and extension. Finally, it aims to enable children to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance. This is especially important for children in KS2 who will need to prepare themselves for the rigours of homework at high school.

We recognise the need for children to have the time to follow out of school interests and family activities and the following time allocations allow for these important things to take place.

### Implementation

**Reading:** At Tonacliffe Primary School we believe reading is the key to success. Reading practice and reading with children/hearing children read is essential throughout primary school and parents will be encouraged to read with and to children as a regular part of the work children do at home. Parents will be encouraged to listen to their child read and read with their child, in a supportive manner and in an appropriate setting that promotes enjoyment and fosters a love of reading.

| Year Group | Time Allocation   | Homework Activities   |
|------------|---|---|
| Nursery    | None  | Reading/ sharing (library) books and games.<br>Word of the Week   |
| Reception  | Reading ten minutes at least five times/ week<br>Phonics and number of the week<br>15 minutes/ week | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books – phonic matched book, key (tricky) words and phonics.<br>Number of the Week |
| Year 1     | Reading fifteen minutes at least five times/ week   | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books – phonic matched book, key (tricky) words and phonics.<br>Number of the Week |

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|        | Phonics and number of the week<br>20 minutes/ week  | <b>Optional:</b> Spelling and multiplication, number bond challenges/ Learning Log   |
| Year 2 | Reading fifteen minutes at least five times/ week<br>Phonics and number of the week<br>20 minutes/ week   | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books – phonic matched book, key (tricky) words and phonics. (Some children may start Accelerated Reader and quizzes, when ready.)<br>Number of the Week<br>Children will be introduced to learning multiplication tables on TTRockstars in September 2024.<br><b>Optional:</b> Spelling and multiplication, number bond challenges/ Learning Log |
| Year 3 | Reading - twenty minutes at least five times/ week.<br>Ten minutes TTRockstars five times/week<br>Literacy and maths task 30 minutes/ week                      | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books (Accelerated Reader quizzes)<br>Short literacy (grammar, punctuation or comprehension) task and maths task completed in a homework exercise book.<br>Multiplication tables – using TTRockstars<br><b>Optional:</b> Spelling and multiplication challenges/ Learning Log   |
| Year 4 | Reading - twenty minutes at least five times/ week.<br>Ten minutes TTRockstars five times/week<br>Literacy and maths task 30 minutes/ week                      | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books (Accelerated Reader quizzes)<br>Short literacy (grammar, punctuation or comprehension) task and maths task completed in a homework exercise book.<br>Multiplication tables – using TTRockstars<br><b>Optional:</b> Spelling and multiplication challenges/ Learning Log   |
| Year 5 | Reading - thirty minutes at least five times/ week.<br>Ten minutes TTRockstars five times/week<br>Literacy task 30 minutes/ week<br>Maths task 30 minutes/ week | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books (Accelerated Reader quizzes)<br>Literacy (grammar, punctuation or comprehension) task and maths task completed in a homework exercise book.<br>Multiplication tables – using TTRockstars<br><b>Optional:</b> Spelling and multiplication challenges/ Learning Log   |
| Year 6 | Reading - thirty minutes at least five times/ week.<br>Ten minutes TTRockstars five times/week<br>Literacy task 30 minutes/ week<br>Maths task 30 minutes/ week | <b>Must:</b> Reading/sharing books (Accelerated Reader quizzes)<br>Literacy (grammar, punctuation or comprehension) task and maths task completed in a homework exercise book.   |

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|  |  | Multiplication tables – using TTRockstars<br><b>Optional:</b> Spelling and multiplication challenges/ Learning Log |
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Homework is given out on **Fridays** and handed back in by **Wednesdays**.

## Impact

Our homework policy will support children’s learning and allow them to consolidate skills taught in school. Reading is central to our school vision, as we believe that regular reading is essential to developing children’s learning not only in literacy but also in many subject areas across the curriculum. Homework also develops independence and organization within children. Our homework policy prepares children well for the demands of homework when they leave us and start high school.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Class teachers will plan homework activities. They will set regular homework in an easily followed routine and ensure that homework is set consistently across key stage phases. They will reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks. Teachers will investigate the reasons for homework not being completed before responding with sanctions.

At Tonacliffe Primary School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. Parents are asked:

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts their homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining to children how it can help learning.

Children are responsible for completing tasks as requested (with increasing independence as they move through the school) and to take responsibility for organising any information or equipment they require.

## Special Educational Needs

Throughout the school the planning of homework tasks will take in to account the needs of children with special educational needs; this may mean for some children homework is not appropriate. For children who can access homework, careful planning will ensure that the level of demand is appropriate and manageable. Where necessary, clear guidance will be provided for parents.

## **Marking Homework**

Homework will not normally be marked to the same degree that work undertaken in school is marked and assessed. Written work may just receive a tick to show that the work is acknowledged. Most feedback to homework will be done orally and most often with the whole class or focused/guided group.

## **Responding to children and ensuring that homework is completed**

In Reception, children are praised, awarded stickers and merits. If there are problems completing activities, teachers will discuss these issues with parents.

In KS1, children are also rewarded with praise, stickers and merits. If there are problems completing activities, teachers will discuss these issues with parents. Children may be requested to complete homework activities during provision time.

In KS2, it is an expectation that homework will be completed and handed in on time. Children who complete and hand their homework in on time are praised in class and there is regular encouragement through use of the merit system. Those who fail to complete and hand work in on time will be required to complete their work during a designated play and/ or lunch play. Parents are informed if a child regularly fails to complete homework by the class teacher. If there are no improvements, the Headteacher will be informed and a meeting may be arranged with parents.

Date of policy: June 2024

