

St. Anne's Primary School

Homework Policy

The Purpose of Homework

- To introduce the children to the concept of study out of school so that as they mature children will develop self-discipline as well as organisational and research skills.
- To enable parents to be actively involved in their children's learning - providing encouragement and fostering positive attitudes towards school work.
- To consolidate, reinforce and extend activities undertaken in class.
- To incorporate innovative homework practices which reflect developments within education and the range of learning styles.
- To make use of available resources for learning of all kinds which exist at home.

The amount and type of homework:

- The length of time spent should not be excessive as the children have worked hard at school all day.
- The needs of the children, and the programme of work being covered at the time will often dictate the frequency and length of the tasks.

The following may be used as a guideline - flexibility is required to allow for occasional extra/less written homework:

- P1 & P2 - 10 minutes reading, 10 minutes other homework activities.
- P3 - 20 minutes total
- P4 & P5 - 30 minutes total
- P6 & P7 - 45 minutes total

Types of Homework which may be given include :

Literacy:

1. Reading. Your young child should read aloud to you each evening, and when capable your child should engage in silent reading for pleasure.
2. Spellings.
3. Other literacy activities.
4. Children may be asked to amend/complete classwork.

Numeracy:

1. Work aimed at improving maths skills
2. Pupils may be required to carry out a variety of enquiry based activities (eg. Finding 2D shapes around the home).
3. Pupils may be required to amend/complete classwork.

Additional homework may be given covering other areas of the curriculum.

In General:

- The children are required to record their homework in their diaries, (P5-P7), reading notebooks, (P1-P3). Pupils will also have a reading record/diary.
- These books should be signed/initialled nightly by parents after work is completed.
- Parents should check homework is completed to a satisfactory standard each night.
- Homework diaries/Reading records may be used as a tool for communication between teachers and parents.
- Parents/carers should provide a reasonably peaceful and suitable place for children to complete their homework.
- Discretion should be exercised at all times in the amount of help given by an adult in homework.

Special Educational Needs

- Teachers will adapt homework to individual pupil's needs. If there is difficulty with the level or amount of homework, parents may use their own judgement as to when to stop. Please liaise with your child's class teacher throughout the year to ensure that the right level of work is being given.

Sanctions.

Pupils who fail to complete or present satisfactory homework may be asked to do so during school hours deemed suitable by the teacher.

When books are at home, parents should:-

- ensure that books are properly looked after and that none are lost or damaged.
- New class reading books will be given out once previous books are returned

If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.

If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Principal first.

It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time. Missed work will be provided on their return.

Homework should not be too much of a chore; if you or your child are having any problems with homework, please follow the usual procedures for making an appointment to talk with your child's teacher.