Ashurst Wood Primary School

**Homework Policy**



Updated Spring 2022

Review Date Autumn 1 2025

**Why do we set homework?**

It is important that children see the relevance of the work they do at school and at home and that home tasks extend the learning that takes place at school.

At Ashurst Wood we set homework that will enable children to build confidence, work independently as well as practice and recall key knowledge.

We believe that a little and often approach has more impact on children’s learning, but we are also aware that families have commitments after school. We also do not want homework to be a battle or stressful experience. Therefore, it is important that homework is both purposeful and manageable.

**Expectations**

**Every** child is expected to complete daily homework. This comprises of Reading and Doodle tasks. We use a learning platform called Doodle Maths and Doodle English for daily homework.

There is a minimum expectation for each year group, but children are welcome to complete more if they wish to. The doodle platforms use adaptive technology which creates a unique work programme for each child. Parents are encouraged to be involved with children’s homework, to show an interest and encouragement, support where necessary, but not to do it for them!

We believe that children should learn to be responsible for remembering to complete the work and submit it to the online platforms. In the case of older children, they should be beginning to organise their time to allow sufficient committed time to complete the work expected of them at home. This is very good preparation for the considerable amount of homework that is expected of pupils at secondary schools. Younger children are learning to be responsible for their reading bags – taking them home and bringing them back.

**Reading and Skills Practice**

All children are expected to take books home and either read independently and/or share a book with an adult. It is beneficial for children of all ages and abilities to read with an adult. This is good practice to develop further their reading skills, extend children’s knowledge from the books they read and hopefully develop a lifelong love of reading. In addition, specific tasks as practice in basic skills are given to pupils to complete at home. Sometimes children are asked to explore information for a research project. This requires greater self-motivation for pupils and the need for individual planning and commitment.

Helping children learn

There are many ways parents and other adults can help children learn outside school. Some families have dedicated reading time during the day when ALL members read quietly. Opportunities to count out money or items, cook, play games or visit somewhere of interest are enormously valuable. Talking with children about anything helps them to use language and build new vocabulary. The doodle platform can be used on all mobile devices so if your child is in the car they can be doing their homework!

Prior to End of Key Stage 2 SATs in Year 6 children are encouraged to prepare for the tests by completing some revision activities at home. Year 6 children will be set additional English and Maths activities. Parents might also like to support their child’s revision by purchasing Year 6 workbooks and completing them at home. This is encouraged but is optional, and children’s work should be checked by parents.

# Key Stage 1 –

Children in Key Stage 1 should spend a maximum of 15 minutes a day on homework tasks and reading is the priority.

Key Stage 2 –

Pupils in Years 3 and 4 should spend a maximum of 20 minutes a day and in Years 5 and 6 pupils should spend an average of 30 minutes a day on homework tasks. In addition children should have sustained periods of quiet reading.

Homework is not given to “occupy” children and we do not expect homework to be completed when children are ill.

Communication

Parental concerns about homework should be directed to each class teacher, initially.

Time will be available during Parent / Teacher Consultations to share concerns about homework. However, teachers may answer queries at the end of the day if they are available. Sometimes an appointment is necessary.

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| Daily homework |
| **Year group**  | **Homework** | **Time expectation** |
| Reception  | Reading | 5-10 minutes a day |
| Phonics sounds  |
| Doodle maths  | 5 minutes a day  |

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| Year 1 | Reading and phonics  | 5-10 minutes a day |
| Doodle maths | 5 minutes a day |
| Doodle literacy  | 5 minutes a day |

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| Year 2 | Doodle maths  | 5 minutes a day |
| Doodle literacy | 5 minutes a day |
| Reading & phonics or spellings  | 5-10 minutes a day |

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| Year 3 to Year 5  | Doodle maths  | 5-10 minutes Three times a week  |
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| Doodle literacy and doodle spell | 5-10 minutes Three times a week  |
| Reading  | 10 minutes **at least** five times a week |
| Weekly Times table practise using TT Rock Stars or doodle tables | Children will have a tables quiz to assess progress every week.  |
| Doodle literacy  | 5-10 minutes a day |
| Weekly spelling practise | Children will have a spelling quiz to assess progress every week. |
| Reading  | 10 minutes a day |

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| Year 6 up to December | Doodle maths  | 5-10 minutes Three times a week  |
| Doodle literacy and doodle spell | 5-10 minutes Three times a week  |
| Reading  | 10 minutes **at least** five times a week |
| Weekly Times table practise using TT Rock Stars or doodle tables | Children will have a tables quiz to assess progress every week.  |
| Doodle literacy  | 5-10 minutes a day |
| Doodle literacy  | 5-10 minutes a day |
| Weekly spelling practise | Children will have a spelling quiz to assess progress every week. |
| Reading  | 10 minutes a day |
| After Christmas | Children will have SATs revision books to work through each week. This will result in an adjustment of homework according to the needs of the children.  |