

Policy Title:	Homework Policy	
Version:	Version 1 – May 2021	
Date of Issue:	10/02/2021	
Date of Review:	Summer Term 2022	
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Ratified by:	Governors Policy Committee	
Responsible signatory:	Chair: H McCann	Vice Chair: W Blundell
Date of signature:	May 2021	
Outcome:	<p>This Policy:</p> <p>Is designed to help colleagues understand their roles and responsibilities when setting homework. Homework should endeavour to compliment, consolidate and reinforce the learning that takes place within the classroom.</p>	
Cross Reference:	Marking and Feedback Policy	

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Astley Park School is committed to the fair treatment of all in line with the Equality Act 2010. An equality impact assessment has been completed on this policy to ensure that it can be implemented consistently regardless of any protected characteristics and all will be treated with dignity and respect.

POLICY REVIEW

To ensure that this policy is relevant and up to date, comments and suggestions for additions or amendments are sought from users of this document. To contribute towards the process of review, please contact the author of the policy.

Homework Policy

Philosophy

At Astley Park we believe homework should endeavour to compliment, consolidate and reinforce the learning that takes place within the classroom.

For the purpose of this policy, "homework", is defined as any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. Whatever the activity, homework should be an enjoyable and rewarding experience that does not place pressure on the pupil or the family.

Aims

- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- To enhance the quality of learning experience offered to pupils.
- To encourage family learning and thereby promote pupils' positive attitude to learning.
- To involve parents/carers in their child's learning and promote enjoyable family learning experiences.
- To help parents/carers understand the level their child is working at.
- To give an opportunity for the child to share with an adult, parent or carer what they are learning.
- To develop an effective partnership between school and parents/carers.
- To allow pupils to generalise skills in a different context/setting.
- To ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account.

Principles

Homework should:

- Have a clear focus and time considerations.
- Have plenty of opportunities to succeed.
- Develop a range of skills across the curriculum including those identified as part of a pupils' Personalised Learning Goals.
- Be manageable for teachers, parents/carers and pupils.

The Amount of Homework

The amount of homework will vary according to the needs of the individual and family circumstances. Varying levels of support will be required to assist the family in facilitating the learning process. Parents are encouraged to discuss such matters with the class teacher for an agreement to be reached.

Parental support for Homework

Astley Park School has set out its expectations of the role of parents in supporting homework. They are to:

- Provide their child with a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which they can do their homework.
- Make it clear to their child that they value homework.
- Encourage their child and praise them when engaging in homework.
- Support their child to work towards the deadlines.
- Parents are expected to be supportive but should not complete their child's homework for them.
- Parents are actively encouraged to discuss homework with the child's class teacher.
- Upload any evidence of your child engaging with homework activities via Evidence for Learning where possible. If not via email or through paper resources being returned to school.

Homework may involve the following:

- Use of reward programmes to reinforce and encourage students.
- The use of visual supports at home to increase communication and interaction.
- Visiting the same community resources as school to participate as a family and to generalise skills developed at school.
- Use of online learning sites, apps and technology within the home.
- Using similar activities to those employed at school to enhance curriculum areas such as communication and problem solving on a practical level.
- Working on their child's Personalised Learning Goals.
- Activity banks personalised to the individual.
- Functional learning activities.
- Reading with, reading to or listening to the child read.

Short activities provide a very important opportunity for children to communicate about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practice skills in a supportive environment. For some children the tasks at home provide the opportunity to develop skills of independent learning, for others it is the involvement of parents and carers in joint activities, however brief, which is most valuable in promoting learning.

Monitoring of Homework Policy

The Leading Practitioners will monitor homework within classes to ensure that the policy is being implemented consistently. This ensures that the policy leads to good practice in facilitating homework and is evident to have had an impact on progress during lessons.

The purpose of the Homework

- To enhance the partnership with parents or carers, involving them actively in their child's learning.
- To consolidate, generalise, maintain and reinforce skills that are worked on across curriculum areas.
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- To further increase confidence as a successful learner.

Homework needs to be:

- Achievable
- A rewarding experience
- Fun!

Conclusion

A successful policy depends on good dialogue with parents/carers. A dialogue will be fostered by communication books, emails, phone calls, Sharing our Learning sessions, reviews and parents' evenings. Regular bulletins to parents/carers in the form of class blogs and shared learning through the Evidence for Learning platform are accessible.

In order for a homework policy to be effective:

1. It must complement the classroom learning.
2. Parents/carers must be involved in the learning process.
3. Progression needs to be acknowledged through feedback.
4. Relevant resources are prepared and provided.
5. Homework will be marked against the marking and feedback policy.

Astley Park School