

Brindle St. James' Church of England Primary School



Homework Policy

**April 2025
Review April 2028**

POLICY FOR HOMEWORK

Our aims

- To ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help to continue to raise standards of attainment.
- To improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- To provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- To encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- To reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for the individual pupil.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- To encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectation and outcomes. It is important to remember that when setting homework there are a number of points to consider:-

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
5. Homework should be set regularly from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.

Homework **is not**:

- A means of finishing work not completed in the classroom
- An afterthought at the end of the lesson

Recommended Time Allocation

There is no legal requirement for schools to provide a set amount of homework or for primary children to undertake formal homework. However the following are government recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities:

Years 1 and 2 - 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4 - 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6 – 2.5 hours per week

At Brindle St. James' Church of England Primary School, we believe homework is a vital means of helping to raise pupil achievement and of enabling the school to offer some pastoral support beyond the school day. As such, at Brindle St. James' we believe homework requires vital commitment by teachers, pupils and parents. Teachers at the school are required to set homework under this policy.

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the class teacher. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spellings and times tables.

Homework Tasks

Each class teacher sets their own homework which is detailed on the school website. This can be found by clicking on “children”, “Class Pages”, selecting the appropriate class and then the homework button. Class teachers must ensure that this is kept up to date and any changes will be communicated to parents in good time.

Role of the Class Teacher

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.
- To set homework that takes equal opportunities into account.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the taught curriculum.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework and give feedback to any pupils who have not achieved the outcomes set for the task.

Role of the Head teacher

- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.
- To inform new parents to the school so that they are aware of the home/school agreement and what it entails.

Role of the Governing Body

- To check compliance of the Policy.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To sign a home school agreement dealing with homework.
- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the 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 how it can help learning.
- To ensure Reading Diaries are filled and signed as appropriate.

Role of out of hours club

Out of hours clubs do not provide a homework club and staffs role is not to support children with their home learning. As many of the families who access the clubs are busy working families, it is recognised that the time children have to complete their homework tasks is reduced. To support working families, children attending the out of hour's clubs are allowed to complete independent revision type homework activities, which do not require a device such as practising spellings and timestables. Parents should continue to support their child's home learning as this is an excellent opportunity to gain an insight into their child's learning.

At Brindle St. James' Church of England School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with the class teacher.

If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help need to be given. It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term times.

Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.

Equal Opportunities:

The governors and staff are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability and ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have access to the curriculum, and the right to a learning environment, which dispels ignorance, prejudice or stereotyping.