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Aims

We believe that education is a life-long process. A child's education does not cease when they leave our school premises, learning at home is an essential part of good education.

"Homework" is any work or activity completed outside lesson time, either alone, with parents, or others which makes an important contribution to progress at school.

We see the purpose of homework as being to:

- Develop an effective partnership between school and parents for each child's education, as children achieve more when teachers and parents work together
- Consolidate/reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English, Reading and Maths
- Utilise resources for learning available at home
- Extend school learning
- Develop confidence, independence and the self-discipline needed for personal study in preparation for secondary school and beyond

- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences

From the Early Years simple games, learning spellings, practising their phonic sounds and of course, reading with parents provides valuable opportunities for the practice and reinforcement of key skills in a supportive environment. As children get older, they need to develop the habit of regularly devoting short periods of time to personal study. All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

This homework policy is designed:

- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the pupils.
- To extend and support learning
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences

The emphasis of homework activities is on the development of skills of English, Reading and Maths. From time-to-time children may bring home a piece of work they have missed through absence, or for further reinforcement. Other activities are added as children move up the school.

Regular reading is fundamental and this is our suggested structure for home learning. However, we consider the cohort of children and the needs of each class which will impact on the quantity of home learning set.

How staff at Redhill support this policy:

- By providing a range of homework tasks and activities.
- By ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability
- By communicating with parents and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and themes studied in class and their children's individual tasks.

How parents /carers can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets
- Provide a suitable place equipped with a clear table space, chair and good light
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework

- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework completed
- Be actively involved in the homework (particularly of younger children)
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by a comment in a reading record or alternative record keeping provided by the school.

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.

Feedback for pupils/parents or carers and teachers

Feedback needs to be given promptly and may be given in a variety of ways:

- Verbal response from parents or carers and teachers
- Class discussion
- Tests eg. Spellings or tables
- Pupil/peer evaluation
- Presentation of work in class and/or school assembly

Guidelines for Early Years and Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

Reception

Children are expected to:

- Read regularly at home to an adult. "Little and often" is more effective and has much more impact upon progress. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Read to an adult their book which will reinforce their phonic skills taught systematically in school.

Year 1

Children are expected to:

- Read with an adult at least three times a week and discuss their reading with an adult. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Read to an adult their book which will reinforce their phonic skills taught systematically in school.

Year 2

Children are expected to:

- Read with an adult at least three times a week and discuss their reading with an adult. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Read to an adult their book which will reinforce their phonic skills taught systematically in school.

Guidelines for Key Stage 2

Lower Key Stage 2

Year 3

Children are expected to:

- Read with an adult at least three times a week and discuss their reading with an adult. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Complete Tackling Tables weekly to practice multiplication facts.
- Complete other theme home learning set to consolidate and extend learning from the classroom.

Year 4

Children are expected to:

- Read with an adult at least three times a week and discuss their reading with an adult. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Complete Tackling Tables weekly to practice multiplication facts.
- Complete other theme home learning set to consolidate and extend learning from the classroom.

Upper Key Stage 2

Year 5

Children are expected to:

- Read with an adult at least three times a week and discuss their reading with an adult. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Complete Tackling Tables weekly to practice multiplication facts.
- Complete other theme home learning set to consolidate and extend learning from the classroom.
- Complete alternative, individual tasks set to progress each child on their own learning journey.

Year 6

Children are expected to have an increased amount and variety of homework in preparation

for their transition to high school.

- Read with an adult at least three times a week and discuss their reading with an adult. This should be recorded in the reading diary consistently.
- Complete Tackling Tables weekly to practice multiplication facts.
- Complete other theme home learning set to consolidate and extend learning from the classroom.
- Complete tasks in Maths, Reading and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG)