



*Our Best Preparation for Tomorrow  
Is Doing Our Best Today*

**Westbrook Old Hall**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# **HOMEWORK POLICY**

**Updated – November 2021**

## SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that the best preparation for tomorrow's future is striving to do our best today.

We believe that because our children matter, they have the right to be safe and healthy, happy and confident, recognised for the individuals they are and for those they might become.

We believe that because our children's achievement matters, they have the right to an excellent learning environment that promotes high expectations, ensures inclusion, recognises diversity and promotes progress and attainment.

We believe that because our children's future matters, they have the right to lead, the right to follow, the right to take best advantage of present and future technology and the right to a global life free from threat

### **Aims (Outcomes)**

Our school aims that all children:

- Are tolerant and responsible
- Are happy and confident
- Are safe and healthy
- Are skilled and willing
- Are eco aware
- Are techno 'cute'
- Are leaders and partners
- Are flexible
- Are given every opportunity to attain and progress
- Are mindful of the joy of diversity
- Are focused on being excellent in all they do
- Are expected always to do their best

## SCHOOL AIMS

Our **children** matter, as does their **achievement** and so too does their **future**.

### **Because our children matter, we will work to:**

- Ensure they are safe and ensure that they can keep themselves and others safe too
- Make sure that school life is happy, enjoyable and rewarding – taking each and every opportunity to build confident, positive citizens of the future
- Develop individuals with a sense of responsibility to themselves and to their community, able to respond positively to different views and beliefs

### **Because our children's achievement matters, we will work to:**

- Release and develop the excellence latent in all our children
- Ensure high expectations in all we do, developing a culture that remains positive about the steps to success and able to celebrate success accordingly
- Provide an inclusive learning framework where individual needs are recognised and catered for, where diversity is celebrated for what it offers our school community
- Ensure that all children make good progress leading to attainment appropriate to potential
- Develop learners with a love of learning and a commitment to future learning in life

### **Because our children's futures matter, we will work to:**

- Develop their ability to release the opportunities provided by technologies present and future
- Develop their awareness of their footprint upon this 'one' world and how they can contribute to its sustainability
- Develop a skills base and a solution-focused attitude that can be applied to effect in a variety of circumstances now and in the future
- Develop an ability to lead others and to be led by others in productive working partnerships

## **EQUALITY STATEMENT**

Equal Opportunities is the responsibility of the whole school community and must be reflected throughout the organisation of the school and be addressed in the taught and hidden curriculum.

All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils will be involved in developing, implementing and monitoring the equal opportunities policy and practice.

All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy or maternity and socio-economic background, are welcome and will be encouraged to participate in the life of the school.

The school recognises its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination and to promote good race relations.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

## **BRITISH VALUES**

The government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At Westbrook Old Hall we reinforce regularly the following values through an agreed programme: Democracy, The Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

## **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Westbrook Old Hall Primary School is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which pupils are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling education.

We believe that homework plays an important part in education and the benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to ensuring homework is well-balanced across the school.

This Homework Policy was developed in consultation with staff members, parents and pupils, and with the full agreement of the governing board.

## **AIMS**

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practise and a deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

The **headteacher** and **governors** are responsible for:

- Frequently checking the policy's compliance with statutory and good practice requirements.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing the policy every two years and making appropriate updates as required.
- Discussing with staff the extent to which this policy is being implemented.
- Meeting with parents as appropriate.
- Providing parents with information about homework.
- Informing new parents about the Homework Policy.

**Key Stage Leads** are responsible for:

- Ensuring all members of staff within their key stage are aware of the school's Homework Policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy within their key stage and reporting their findings back to the headteacher.
- Answering any queries that teaching staff have regarding this policy and the school's practices.

**Teachers** are responsible for:

- Planning and setting up a regular programme of homework for pupils on Seesaw
- Providing an explanation of homework tasks and ensuring that all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensuring all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Setting homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities.
- Monitoring homework regularly and making sure pupils are completing it.
- Marking homework and giving feedback to pupils.
- Communicating with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Being available to parents and pupils for a discussion about homework.
- Setting homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensuring homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Rewarding quality work and praising pupils who regularly complete homework.

**Parents** are responsible for:

- Supporting and encouraging their child with regards to completing homework.
- Becoming involved in their child's homework and encouraging their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Making sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Providing suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Praising their child and celebrating achievements with regards to their homework.
- Informing teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operating with the school to find a solution.
- Keeping the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and ability to complete homework effectively.
- Encouraging their child to discuss homework and feedback from teachers.

**Pupils** are responsible for:

- Taking responsibility for their own learning and submitting completed work in a timely manner.
- Having a positive approach towards homework.
- Putting the same effort into homework as class work.
- Making sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seeking clarification if required.
- Ensuring that they have everything they need to complete homework.
- Taking pride in the presentation and content of their homework and performing to the best of their abilities.
- Our approach to homework

## OUR APPROACH TO HOMEWORK

- The school understands that setting, marking and providing feedback on homework is a large contributor to the workload of teachers; therefore, Key Stage Leads and teachers ensure that homework only takes place to positively impact pupils' progress.
- Homework is uploaded to Seesaw where pupils and parents can view homework tasks – reducing printing costs and the number of lost homework sheets.
- If a teacher has a query, their Key Stage Lead is available to offer guidance and support regarding the school's procedures.
- The school communicates the school's approach to homework to parents via Parentmail and at parents' evenings in the first half term.
- Every term, each year group is informed of what is expected of them with regards to homework.
- Parents can view the main topics and units of work being covered each term by viewing the long-term plans on the school website.
- Homework is marked every week on Seesaw.
- Parents are encouraged to discuss any errors with their child. If they have any queries, they should make an appointment to see their child's teacher. Feedback from parents about their child's homework is also welcomed by the school.
- The amount of homework set for pupils increases as they progress through the school.
- Teachers may occasionally set extra homework for the whole class if they deem it beneficial.
- The information below shows expected homework in each year group. Tasks may be set in addition to the below activities.

### EYFS HOMEWORK

- Reading – daily
- Phonics and maths – sent out every Thursday

### KS1 HOMEWORK

- In **Year 1**, homework is sent out every Wednesday and is due in on a Wednesday (a week later).
- The homework will be for reading, phonics and maths
  
- In **Year 2**, homework is sent out every Friday and is due in on a Friday (a week later)
- The first week, the children will receive English homework (can include spelling, reading, phonics, grammar activities)
- The second week, the children will receive maths homework.
- The homework is alternated each week – English then maths
- After Christmas, the children are expected to use Times Table Rock Stars for homework



## KS2 HOMEWORK

- Homework to be sent via Seesaw, unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- Homework to go out twice a week
- Friday to Tuesday – English. Tuesday to Friday – maths
- The table below shows how types of homework are alternated each week.

<b><u>WEEK 1 - ENGLISH</u></b> Spelling Reading Plus Reading – 3 records	<b><u>WEEK 1 – MATHS</u></b> Maths task
<b><u>WEEK 2 – ENGLISH</u></b> Spelling Grammar task Reading – 3 records	<b><u>WEEK 2 – MATHS</u></b> TTRS Or Number task for GD pupils

- Spellings given for homework will be tested on Friday
- Years 3, 4 and 5 – 10 spellings per week. Y6 – 10-20 spellings per week
- A minimum of 3 reads per week. Parents to sign each entry in reading record once a week
- Teacher to keep a record of who has done the homework
- Teacher to keep a record of spelling test results
- Teacher can mark homework with children
- If children do not complete work on more than three consecutive occasions, parents will be contacted.

## ABSENCES

If a pupil is absent from school due to illness, or a medical reason, the school will not supply homework for these periods – pupils should be well enough to undertake any work supplied.

If a child has gone on a holiday, homework/work will not be supplied.

### **Pupils who do not complete homework**

- All pupils are expected to complete homework on time.
- Teachers keep records of pupils completing homework which are regularly checked.
- If pupils do not complete homework for 3 weeks consecutively, teachers contact parents to find out why.

## MONITORING AND REVIEW

- This policy is reviewed every two years by the headteacher.
- The scheduled review date for this policy is November 2023.