

## Homework Policy

### Introduction

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important, since it gives pupils the opportunity to practise at home the tasks done in class, and helps them work towards improving important skills. It also encourages children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school and, later, in adult life.

Homework activities are an important part of the home/school partnership. All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

### AIMS

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout our school.
- Enhance and reinforce work and learning at our school.
- Help children to develop independent learning strategies
- Improve the quality and range of learning experiences offered to children.
- Ensure that parents have a clear understanding of what is expected of them and of the children.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and school to work in partnership.
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to enjoy learning experiences together.

### OBJECTIVES

All tasks should:

- Give plenty of opportunities for children to succeed.
- Be enjoyable.
- Be differentiated to match the children's needs.
- Have a clear, shared focus accompanied with time guidelines.
- Where appropriate, help to develop social as well as academic skills.
- Be manageable for teachers and parents.
- Not deprive the children of their vital playtime and enjoyment of other interests.

### Time allocations:

It is expected that children will spend at least the following times on homework activities:

Year Group	Homework Activity
F1	Optional homework the term before they start full time. This could be Jolly Phonics sheets, ORT character matching games, picture books.(where appropriate)
F2	10 minutes per night. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading</li><li>• Phoneme cards to build words,</li><li>• Common Exception words to read (when appropriate),</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topic based work at least once every half term.</li> <li>• Activities on class page on the school website.</li> <li>• More formal literacy and maths tasks later in the year.</li> </ul>
Year 1&2	<p>10-15 minutes per night.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• English/Maths/Topic tasks related to the previous weeks learning.(completed in homework books) (sent home weekly)</li> <li>• Spelling work when appropriate</li> <li>• Activities on class page on the school website.</li> </ul>

(Homework: Guidelines for Primary Schools and Secondary Schools. DFE suggested time allocation for homework: Year one and two - 1 hour per week)

**How staff at John T. Rice support this policy:**

- by providing a range of homework tasks and activities to consolidate and extend learning in class;
- 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 topics to be studied, and their child's individual targets.

**How parents can help to support children (wherever practical):**

- provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets;
- provide a suitable place, equipped with a comfortable chair, clear table space, good light;
- provide encouragement and support to children when they require it;
- support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning;
- encourage pupils and praise them when homework is completed;
- be actively involved in the homework of younger children in particular;

**Pupils are expected to:**

- make full use of all the opportunities they are presented with;
- tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude;
- take pride in presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected;
- take responsibility for handing in the completed task on the agreed day.

**Timescales:**

Homework will be given out on a Friday and returned on the following Wednesday. The teachers will keep a tick list of homework returned. Children will receive stamps for homework completed. If homework is not returned for a period of time then parents will be contacted.

**Feedback for pupils, parents or carers and teachers:**

It is important that feedback is given to pupils as quickly as possible. This may be given in a number of ways:

- immediately by parents or carers;
- discussion in class where homework is a part of the class work;

This policy was agreed by staff and governors in Autumn 2017 and will be reviewed in Autumn 2018.