

North Bradley C E Primary School

Homework



Guidance For Parents

Mar 2010

. How long should my child be spending on homework?

- Generally, 'little and often' is a good guide. For example, it is much better to spend 10-15 minutes on reading, 5 times a week than have one long session every so often. It is also more effective if your child gets into a regular routine of reading or learning spellings.
- If your child has been given an additional task which may take him/her half an hour or more, then they should be allowed more than one evening in which to complete it.
- It can be difficult to find 'the right time' for doing homework, but straight after school is not the best time - your child needs a break and probably also some food. A quiet time after their evening meal, with no distractions, eg television, works best.
- It is very important that children complete their homework tasks by the deadlines given as they will often be following it up in class time.

How can we keep you better informed about what homework your child should be doing?

- By informing you in our termly curriculum letters
- Through speaking to you
- By having particular days for homework and a specific day for its return. This information will be in curriculum letters or in the home-school link book.
- By informing you if your child is not doing his/her homework

Why do we give children homework?

- To consolidate and extend the learning that has taken place in school
- To practise particular skills
- To set children challenges
- To involve parents positively in children's learning
- To encourage use of local libraries and home reference books
- To encourage children to take more responsibility for their own learning
- To encourage self-discipline
- To help children learn about time limits
- To encourage interest in and enjoyment of work.

We believe that homework is of most benefit when it is directly linked to the work done in school.

Weekly homework tasks

KS1

Oak	Maple	Beech
Reading or sharing a book with an adult	Reading to an adult	Reading to an adult
Learning 'tricky' and decodable words	Please see the children's reading record book for ideas on how to elicit discussions about your child's reading book	
	Spellings weekly	Spelling tasks & spelling log
Parents will be provided with a list of suggested maths games to support their child's learning in school.		

KS2

Rowan	Elm	Sycamore
Reading to an adult	Reading to an adult	Reading to an adult
Weekly spellings	Weekly spellings	Weekly spellings
Maths activity	Maths activity	Maths activity
Number bonds or times tables	Times tables	Times tables
Activity linked with current work	Activity linked with current work	Activity linked with current work

In addition to specific homework tasks, children's learning generally can be supported by activities at home such as:

Reading - taking books home and bringing reading material from home to school, using the public library, playing reading games. *Children from Yr 1 onwards may borrow a book from our non-fiction library. It is invaluable to your child's learning to share these books with them. Read to them if the text is too challenging and discuss the content and the way the book is organised. Please encourage the children to return the books fortnightly so that we can ensure a good range of available books.*

Writing – notices, shopping lists, letters, diaries, stories, making books.

Drama – creating a dressing up box, discussing television and films, going to the theatre, joining a drama club.

Maths – playing number games, learning tables, counting collections of coins, calculating totals and change when shopping, measuring.

Science – visiting museums, home science kits, country walks, growing things, keeping pets, cooking.

Technology – making and baking at home, tool box, crafts, visiting factories, Lego and construction building.

Music – playing an instrument, attending concerts, listening to music.

PE – joining clubs, playing games, cycling, going for walks.

Geography – getting to know the area and the world, following maps, talking about the journeys they take.

History – family stories, museums and places of interest.

Art – drawing and painting, visiting galleries, reading picture books.

- By using the PACT Book at KS1 and a home/school Link Book at KS2.

More specific guidance can be found in the Homework Policy, which is available from the school office.