



Homework Policy Summary

This policy summary is written to ensure a consistent approach is taken by all members of staff. The complete homework policy can be found on Teachershare and should be referred to where more detail is needed.

We define homework as any learning which takes place outside the normal school day, which contributes to a child's learning.

Teacher responsibilities:

- Provide a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Provide clear explanations of homework tasks and ensure all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensure all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Set homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities. Also, ensure homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Monitor homework regularly and take appropriate action if children are not completing it.
- Give feedback to pupils.
- Reward quality work and praise children who regularly complete homework.
- Communicate with parents / carers if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Be available to parents and pupils for a discussion about homework.
- Set homework that is consistent across classes.

Homework Content

Weekly Homework

Every child is expected to undertake the following:

- Read at least 3 times per week – where children are taking home picture books, this includes parents / carers reading to their children.
- Practice spellings / phonics and number facts each week.
- Complete a very short English OR maths challenge each week (alternating).

Half Termly Challenges

Steps to Success half termly challenges are shared with each term. Whilst not compulsory, by undertaking these tasks, children earn credits towards the achievement of the Allanson Street Steps to Success Award (see Steps to Success guidance). These challenges are compiled and shared by the Steps to Success lead (Gemma Lea) with the support of subject leaders.

How homework will be shared

All homework tasks / challenges should be shared on Class Dojo as well as paper copies being sent home to ensure that all children have equal access.

Once completed, parents / children have the choice of uploading a copy of their homework to their portfolio or bringing a paper copy back into school.

The Timing of Homework

All children will receive their homework activities on a Thursday to be completed by the following Thursday.

Weekly homework is not set during the school holidays. However, reading and the practising of maths facts should be ongoing and children can continue to access the Steps to Success challenges. Year 6 children may be asked to do some homework during holidays to prepare for their assessments at the end of Year 6.

Feedback

In relation to homework, we follow our school feedback policy. This means that homework should be worked through with the children in class or in small intervention groups where it is evident that they have not understood the key knowledge / skills. Written feedback is not given to children.

Homework Rewards

Reading - Each time children read at home = 1 dojo. 3+ times a week = 5 dojos.

Completion of weekly English / maths challenge = 1 dojo

Steps to Success - Each task earns children Steps to Success credits. These need to be recorded as per S2S guidance.

Consequences for not completing homework

Nursery – Y4 – No consequences for lack of homework. Teaching staff to send out reminders via dojo and speak to parents on the door to remind them of the need to complete homework.

In preparation for high school, children in Years 5 and 6 lose dojos if they don't do their reading or weekly English / maths homework. A dojo message is also sent home to parents / carers to ensure that they are aware of their child's lack of homework.

Absences

If a child is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, we will not supply homework for these periods.

If a child is absent for a long period of time, e.g. through a contagious illness where the child is unable to attend but feels well in themselves, the teacher and the parents of the pupil will agree on what homework should be undertaken and how much help should be provided.

Equal Opportunities

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has Special Educational Needs, we endeavour to adapt any tasks set so it matches the child's learning needs.

Access to support

In order to support their children with homework activities, parents / carers can access a wide range of support which includes the following:

- Homework helper sessions - Year group and subject specific sessions held in school during which, parents / carers are taught the skills and knowledge needed to support their children at home.
- Direction to useful online resources - Parents are directed to a wide range of useful online resources which can help them to support their child at home.
- Homework Helper guides - Subject and year group specific guides are shared with parents by subject leaders and class teachers.
- Class Dojo direct message - Parents / carers are able to contact class teachers via ClassDojo direct message.

All of the above can be organised by class teachers and / or subject leads. However, to ensure continuity and avoid overlap, the HT should be kept informed of the support offered to parents / carers.

Homework Club

Each Wednesday lunch time, children in KS2 can opt to attend homework club where they can complete their homework in a quiet space, with access to school equipment and adult support. This should be organised, but not necessarily led, by department leaders.

Homework Packs

All children are provided with a homework pack at the beginning of each school year. This will be organised by department leaders and will include essential equipment to enable all children equal opportunity to complete homework at home.