

Paulerspury C.E Primary School

Homework Policy

Date Adopted:	January 2019
Written by:	Robin Bunting
To be reviewed:	Every three years
Agreed by Governors	<i>January 2019</i>
Next review	<i>January 2022</i>

Our policies are written with our School Values in mind. These are:

Care,
Courage,
Creativity,
Forgiveness,

Honesty,
Hope,
Perseverance
Respect,

Responsibility,
Thankfulness
Trust.

Historic

Parent choice

Staff/Governor choice

Pupil choice

Introduction

Why homework?

At Paulerspury Primary School we see homework as a positive and useful extension of the children's learning and an opportunity to develop ideas and understanding in ways which suit the children and their different learning styles.

Homework should build on learning which has begun in school and engage the children's interest, prompting them to want to find out more and present their ideas in creative and interesting ways.

Homework should also be an opportunity for children to share their learning with adults at home. By discussing what they have learnt, explaining their ideas and methods, and completing tasks together, child and adult gain a shared understanding of what has been done and also have the chance to spend time together on worthwhile and creative activities.

In addition, homework is a chance to:

- Celebrate learning which has been done in school
- Consolidate learning undertaken in school
- Extend learning in to new area
- Practice and reinforce learning of vital facts and information, such as spelling and times tables
- Engender positive working habits in preparation for future learning in secondary school and beyond
- Share a love of reading and develop comprehension skills
- Pursue personal interests and develop new and innovative ways of presenting findings to share with peers

However, homework should not become a chore. Not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and home life can be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned. If it becomes a burden or source of conflict, then it ceases to be constructive.

Homework at Paulerspury Primary School

The term homework covers a range of activities:

- Reading
- Phonics and spelling
- Basic number skills – times tables and number bonds
- On line learning
- Activities linked to learning in school
- Activities inspired by child's own interests
- Spontaneous work linked to lessons or events in school
- Work inspired by children's interests

Reading

Reading is a vital skill and needs to be practised regularly to develop fluency, understanding and confidence. Parental support is invaluable in developing this and time spent reading with a child and talking about the text has a huge impact. Children should read aloud at home daily.

Phonics and Spelling

Children will be given sounds, blends words or groups of words linked to a pattern or rule, to learn at home. Regular practice will help the child recall the sound or spelling and be more confident in using and applying this knowledge in their own writing. Sounds and spellings should be practised regularly, ideally daily.

Basic Number Skills

Rapid recall of times tables and number bonds is vital in developing confident, fluent mathematicians. Children should practice these regularly by repeating patterns, saying rhymes, singing songs and playing games. These should be practised daily.

On Line Learning

On line resources are a valuable way to help children learn. Homework tasks may involve completion of activities set by the teacher. currently our school uses My Maths to support learning in maths and some children have access to SPAG.com to support spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Activities linked to learning in school

Pupils spend a long day at school and should have time to relax and be children when they get home. Regular practice of spelling and number skills, as well as reading, should be daily activities.

However, other homework should not put undue time stress on children or families. Therefore, our expectation is that children complete three activities, one English, one maths and one from another area of the curriculum, over a three week period. This homework will be set using open ended questions, such as 'show me what you know about...' allowing children to select how they respond and how long they spend on each activity. Pupils will be encouraged to complete their homework in a range of way, which might include:

- Writing
- Drawing
- Model making
- Video
- Animation
- Audio
- Presentations
- Word processing
- Posters
- Leaflets
- Photographs

Or a combination of the above, or another method that interests them.

No homework will be set over school holidays. Instead whole school challenges will be set and the children encouraged to participate. Activities could include:

- Extreme reading challenge – read in an unusual place
- Reading a range of text types

- Story writing – whole school theme
- Prayer writing – linked to values or the time of year
- Project related to an important national or international event – Olympics etc.
- Sporting challenge – complete a range of activities
- Nature detective – find a range of items in the countryside

Spontaneous Homework

There are times in school where the events of a lesson or a special event in school stimulates the children's interest or highlights the need for particular learning to be reinforced. In these cases, teachers may wish to provide children with additional home learning opportunities. These fall outside of the normal expectation of homework and will be voluntary.

Work inspired by children's interests

Sometimes children are inspired by work in school and want to continue this at home. This may include continuing work started in school, presenting their ideas in a different way, carrying out their own research or making models to demonstrate their understanding. Children are welcome to bring such work in to school and share it with their teacher and peers.

Marking homework

All homework set by staff in school will be acknowledged but will not be marked in depth.

Rewards

All completed homework will be rewarded using house points or stamps. More rewards may be given for additional effort or innovative ideas.

Homework will be celebrated in class and shared with peers. This will help children see what good examples of homework look like and inspire a wider range of responses from the children.

Children will not be punished for not completing homework but may be given the opportunity to complete the work in school. A register of children completing homework will be kept and if a child consistently fails to complete and return tasks this will be discussed with the child and their parent. If necessary, support will be given to enable homework to be completed successfully.

Year Group Expectations

We do not specify the amount of time spent on homework and the following is only a guide to help parents plan routines. If a child has real interest and engagement with an activity then they may want to spend more time completing it.

Foundation Stage

- Share a book or read daily at home with an adult
- Daily practise of phonics sounds or blends
- Counting games or activities

Key Stage 1

- Read daily at home to an adult
- Daily practise of phonics sounds or blends, or spelling words
- Practise times table or number bonds daily or complete online learning on My Maths

- Complete three homework tasks over a three week period, responding to an open ended, show me what you know about...? Type question and presented in a way that interests the child. Each activity should take around thirty minutes

Key Stage 2

- Read daily at home to an adult
- Daily practise of spelling words
- Practise times table or number bonds daily or complete online learning on My Maths
- Complete three homework tasks over a three week period, responding to an open ended, show me what you know about...? Type question and presented in a way that interests the child. Each activity should take around sixty minutes
- Pupils in Y6 may receive additional material to support revision leading up to the SATs tests

If a child is unable to complete all of their homework due to family circumstances or other commitments this should be communicated to school as soon as possible and allowances will be made.

Presentation

Presentation of written homework should be of the same standard as we expect in school. Children should use their best handwriting and write in a sharp pencil. Pen should only be used if they have been awarded a pen licence in school.

Homework books should be looked after and the covers should not be written or drawn on. Books can be covered with wrapping paper etc. if desired.

Return of Books

Reading books and reading diaries should be returned to school every day. This allows communication to flow between home and school and for children to be given new reading books as soon as they are needed.

Homework books should be returned in the date specified when each homework is set. Failure to do so may lead to the work not being marked or shared with the rest of the class.

Homework Format

Homework will be given to the children in the format shown in Appendix A. Each homework will provide parents and pupils with suggested ways in which they could present the given tasks.

Home School Agreement

Homework expectations form part of the Home School Agreement which all children and parents are asked to read and sign when they enter the school. A copy is attached at Appendix B.

Paulerspury Primary School

Year X Homework week commencing xx/xx/xxxx

Daily Tasks

Reading – read with an adult for xx minutes

Phonics/Spelling – practise your sounds, blends or spelling words

Maths skills - Practise times table or number bonds or complete online learning on My Maths

You have three weeks to complete the following tasks. You should spend around xx minutes on each one.

English – show me what you know about xxxxxxxxxx. You could produce a poster, a leaflet, a presentation or a video to share your findings.

Maths – show me what you know about xxxxxxxxxx. You could draw a picture, make a model, bake a cake or use number and images to present your ideas.

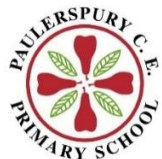
Other – show me what you know about xxxxxx. You could compose a poem, write a song, draw a comic or write a story to share you understanding.

Homework to be returned on xx/xx/xxxx

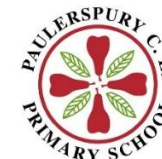
Child's Comment

Parental Comment

Appendix B – Home School Agreement



Paulerspury CE (VC) Primary School



Home School Agreement

<p>Our School will give our pupils the best education possible.</p> <p>We shall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a secure, caring, stimulating and Christian environment for your child, which will allow them the maximum opportunity to work, learn and play happily. • Care for all children's safety and well-being at all times. • Encourage all children to achieve high standards of work and behaviour. • Support all children to achieve their full potential as a valued member of the school community. • Provide a balanced, interesting and challenging curriculum to meet all children's individual needs. • Keep you informed about each child's progress and how you can help them at home. • Set homework appropriately to reinforce and support your child's learning. • Be approachable and welcoming, and offer opportunities for you to become involved in the daily life of the school. 	<p>As a Pupil of Paulerspury School</p> <p>I shall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend school regularly and on time with all the equipment I need every day including my PE kit, book bag and reading books; • Wear school uniform and keep myself clean and tidy. • Work hard and listen carefully to instructions. • Do all my class work and homework as well as I can. • Be kind, polite and helpful to others, and look after the younger children. • Tell somebody if there is something I am not happy about; • Follow the school and class rules; • Behave well at all times to maintain the safety of myself and others; • Take good care of the school environment and living things. 	<p>As Parents or Carers</p> <p>I / We shall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See that my child goes to school regularly, is on time and is properly equipped. • Inform the school on the first day of absence. • Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's behaviour or learning. • Support the school's policies and guidelines for good behaviour. • Support my child with homework and home-learning opportunities. • Attend parents' evenings and discussions about my child's progress, and support school events as far as possible. • Respect the village environment in which the school is situated. • Read all letters, messages and emails that are sent home. • Inform the school immediately of any changes to parents/carer and emergency contacts details.
<p>Signed: _____ (Class Teacher) _____ (Headteacher)</p>	<p>Signed: _____ (Pupil)</p>	<p>Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) _____ (Parent/Carer)</p>