



Aboyne Lodge School
'Proud of Ourselves, Proud of Others, Proud of our School'

Homework Policy 2018

Introduction and aims

Through this policy we aim to;

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- Use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and the school to work together
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Maths and English
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self discipline needed to study independently
- To prepare Y6 pupils for transfer to secondary school.

The nature of homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

- The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupil's school career.
- The amount and frequency of homework should increase as a child gets older
- HW should not cause stress on the pupil, family or teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task
- HW should be set regularly in all year groups.

Recommended time allocation

Homework should never be too onerous, and nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns, they should never hesitate to contact the school. Normally more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged; eg reading, spelling or times tables.

The following are Government recommendations for appropriate time allocations for homework activities;

- Y1 and 2 One hour per week
- Y3 and 4 1.5 hours per week
- Y5 and 6 30 minutes per day

HW tasks

Listed below, for each phase of Aboyne Lodge, are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these task and activities will be used in a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and the activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

Phase 1: EYFS

Activities may include:

- Reading books
- Counting up and down stairs
- Reciting Nursery Rhymes or counting songs
- Identifying shapes in the environment
- Fastening of buttons and zips and tying shoe laces

Phase 2 (Y1, 2 and 3)

Activities may include:

- Reading
- Spellings
- Maths or English activities
- Real life numeracy skills; shopping, car, bus or house numbers etc

Phase 3 (Y4, 5 and 6)

Activities may include;

- Reading with an adult
- Spellings
- Talking about their work
- Handwriting practice
- Comprehension activities
- Planning their writing
- Planning presentations
- Research.
- Learning mathematical facts such as times tables, number bonds etc
- Consolidating work done in class

Role of the class teacher

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine
- To provide a full explanation of the homework
- To take equal opportunities into account
- To ensure that homework is purposeful and linked to the curriculum
- To mark homework when necessary and give feedback to pupils

Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body

- To check compliance of the policy
- To inform new parents about the Home School agreement and what it entails

Role of parents/carers

- To sign and follow the home school agreement
- To support the school by ensuring that the child attempts the homework
- To provide a suitable place for the child to complete the homework
- To become actively involved and support the child with homework activities
- To make it clear that they value homework, and that they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

At Aboyne Lodge we are keen for parents to support and help their children with their homework. We take the view that children are likely to get much more out of an activity if parents get involved – as long as they do not take over too much. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning.

General

- Wherever possible, staff should give feedback to pupils on their homework. This acknowledges the importance of homework. Feedback might be to individuals or groups, and may not be written.
- If pupils are absent we will not send homework home: we would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a period of time eg with a broken leg, the teacher and parent will agree what steps to take.
- It is not possible to set homework when parents take holidays in term time
- Parents or carers who have questions about their child's homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to the Class teacher or Phase Leader.

