



Foxes Piece School

Homework and Home Learning Policy

Approved by Teaching, Learning and Pastoral Committee

Reviewed

September 2021

Next Review

September 2023

AIM

We want our pupils to develop a love of learning and an understanding that learning can take place at anytime and anywhere. In setting homework activities, we aim to provide a relevant activity for them to do, in which their parents can be involved and which can aid their general educational progress without providing too much of a burden on teachers, families or the children themselves.

PURPOSE

- To foster a “partnership in learning” between home and school
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding
- To extend school learning
- To develop independent learning and study skills
- To prepare pupils for the greater demands of secondary education
- To raise educational standards and achievement

When setting homework tasks teachers consider a variety of subject matter which are relevant to the child's needs and levels of development. A range of language activities, mathematical tasks as well as technology or model making may also be included as this will allow for interest to be maintained through variability.

The role of parents in supporting pupils' homework cannot be over emphasised. Parents should encourage their children to complete their homework, and praise them for successful efforts. This immediate feedback can be very beneficial for the pupils. Parents can also get a feel for the child's attitude and ability through their homework activities. Parents and teachers can communicate about homework through the child's homework diary.

Homework at Foxes Piece School will focus on fostering a love of reading

We believe reading is a key aspect of developing a child's learning. We value parents and carers reading with and to their children because it allows them to enjoy texts they might not be able to read alone, therefore improving many key skills which enable a child to access the wider curriculum.

Improving key life skills through homework

Social skills, problem solving, managing feelings and working collaboratively are key life skills are so important in throughout school life. We actively encourage parents to engage in playing games and working together as a team, sharing and communicating feelings to help children become confident and not to fear getting things wrong or having a go! Activities and games develop numeracy and literacy skills but also vital life skills and are fun too! For example:

- Playing scrabble is a great way of learning to spell but also teaches turn taking, solving problems and losing! The game Articulate develops vocabulary and speaking and listening skills.
- Card games are great for developing mental maths, independence and patience!
- Dominoes are a great way to learn number bonds!

Home learning across EYFS, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

Reception Children are encouraged to read with parents regularly and word recognition work is also occasionally sent home. Number games are also sent home regularly to share and play with parents. Children are rewarded for reading with stickers and verbal praise.

Key Stage 1 For Year One and Two homework is set on an informal basis. Children are expected to read to their parents nightly and they are sometimes asked to search for information or pictures connected with their current topic work. In addition to this to develop language rich opportunities at home we send 'Home Learning Activity Bags' and to specifically support literacy development - Spelling Workbooks or phonic tasks are sent weekly. Children are praised for completing homework through stickers, praise notes and certificates.

Key Stage 2 In Year Three, Four, Five and Six one of the main priorities is to develop the skills of independent learning. It is important that the children should get into the habit of regularly spending periods of time to study on their own. A Homework Club is available for children in Key Stage Two to attend on Tuesday and Thursday lunch time. This provides an opportunity for pupils to access a quiet learning environment in which they can complete homework tasks with the support of a teacher. If children regularly fail to complete homework they will use the Homework Club to catch up on missed work.

Below is a basic outline of the home learning routine across Key Stage Two.

<u>Monday</u>	Literacy based homework e.g. spelling work books, writing task, phonics, handwriting etc.
<u>Wednesday</u>	Numeracy homework task e.g. calculations, shape work, data handling task etc.
<u>Friday</u>	Thinking skills activities, topic work, brainteasers or creative writing.

As children progress through Key Stage Two, the quantity and depth of work will increase. Reading with parents is always encouraged daily and children are provided with Reading Diaries which parents are asked to sign regularly to aid home/school communication.