



Law Primary School

Homework Policy

1 Introduction

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.

2 Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development.

We see homework as an important example of co-operation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. At Law we encourage a balanced approach which promotes achievement in and out of school.

3 Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
- To promote co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- To maximise achievement in the core areas of Literacy and Numeracy

- To provide opportunities to explore some curriculum aspects independently and in greater depth i.e. through projects
- To help our pupils develop good work habits for the future

4 Types of homework

Staff and pupils regard homework as an integral part of the curriculum – it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning. The table below provides an indication of the type of homework which can be expected at each stage in the school and the frequency of it.

Stage	Type of Homework	Example	Frequency
P1-3	Reading		Weekly
	Phonics and Spelling		Weekly
	Maths Activities		Weekly
P4-7	Reading		Weekly
	Spelling		Weekly
	Reading Activity		Weekly
	Maths Activities		Weekly
	Independent Project/Research		Varies - as appropriate

5 Amount of homework

As they move through the school, we increase the amount of homework that we give the children. Please refer to the table below as a guide:

Stage	Approximate Time
P1-3	1 hour per week
P4-5	1 ½ hours per week
P6-7	2 hours per week

6 Inclusion and homework

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, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

7 The role of parents and carers

Parents and carers have a **vital** role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to support their children and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

If parents and carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If they wish to discuss an aspect of the homework policy, they should contact the school office who will refer them to a member of the Senior Management Team.

Homework in primary school is seen, in part, as a preparation for the more independent learning undertaken at secondary school. We understand that there are rare occasions in every family's life when it is difficult to complete homework. If this is the case, please write a note in your child's diary to explain the reason to his/her class teacher. If homework is not completed, and there is no note recorded in your child's diary, the following will be considered:

- Your child may be asked to stay in over break to complete the homework set or use golden Time to complete tasks
- Your child will be issued with a standard format letter informing you that your child has not completed his/her homework and asking for your support.
- If your child is not completing his/her homework on a regular basis, we will ask to meet with you to discuss any issues and offer possible support

In an effort to convey the importance of completing homework tasks, we are asking pupils to sign a **Homework Contract** together with their class teacher and parent/carer. We hope that this will raise the profile of homework and its exceptionally important role in every child's learning journey. Please read, discuss and sign the attached contract with your child and return it to school so their class teacher can also sign it. Thank you in advance with your support in this regard.

8 Monitoring and review

It is the responsibility of the Senior Management Team and Staff at Law to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. In order to do this effectively our homework policy will be reviewed bi-annually the Head Teacher and Depute Head in consultation with the school staff.

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