



# Homework Policy

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<b>Governor Role</b>	Chair

<i>Admin use only</i>	
<b>Location</b>	
<b>Website</b>	
<b>Learning Platform</b>	
<b>Policies File</b>	
<b>Staff room</b>	
<b>Headteacher's File</b>	
<b>Policies Log updated</b>	





### **1. Definition of Homework**

- The term "homework" is taken to include any work or activities that reinforce learning, which pupils are asked to do out of school either on their own or with parents and carers.

### **2. The Purposes of Homework**

- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and maths.
- Where possible to exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home. Care needs to be taken not to embarrass or compromise less privileged children.
- To encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline, needed to study independently by the time they reach Year 6.

### **3. Appropriate Types and Amounts of Homework**

3.1 The main focus will be on literacy (including SPAG) and maths, with all children completing termly project homework related to history and geography learning.

3.2 Weekly spellings will be given to pupils to learn. Children will receive spellings that reflect the learning taking place in class.

3.3 Each term the pupils will be expected to complete a variety of 'Projects', which are related to their termly history and geography learning. Projects set will be dependent on the pupils' age and pupils will be expected to complete the projects using a variety of media e.g., computer generated, handwritten, models etc...

3.4 Picture News at Home will be included on the weekly homework sheets. We believe that this is a great resource for children and their parents to discuss topical events that are happening in the UK and around the world. There are key questions included which parents can use to shape the discussions at home.

3.5 Weekly homework will be given out to pupils every Thursday to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Homework books will be provided for every child and staff will record homework handed in to them. This should then be discussed at Parent Consultation Evenings as necessary.

3.6 School offers two homework clubs after school - one for Key stage 2 and another for Early Years and Key Stage 1. The TA running the club is available to support children in this club with their homework.

3.7 If a child does not complete homework as requested, the child may be required to complete their homework during part of their lunchtime activities. At Loxdale we believe that homework is important as it gives children an opportunity to explore learning in an unstructured setting, encouraging them to be independent and follow their own lines of enquiry.' In addition, homework creates a partnership between school and family, giving parents/carers an insight into what their child is learning.

3.8 Completed written homework such as spellings, should be in Homework Books. The majority of the children's literacy and maths will be on-line, as this is how the children have expressed that they learn best. This will be set by using sites such as Education City, TTRS, Spag.com, Spelling Shed (Ed Shed) etc.



3.9 The involvement of parents and carers in joint activities will be encouraged, being most valuable in promoting children's learning. Clear emphasis will be placed on three points:

- i) Parents should encourage the children in their work - not "do it for them".
- ii) Quality of experience is more valuable than quantity of time spent on it.
- iii) Regular reading and the fostering of enjoyment of books is vital right through primary school.

3.10 Other literacy and related homework will include the learning of spellings and tables. Set maths tasks will generally relate to work current in the classroom. The majority of homework tasks will be set on-line too \*\*.

3.11 In addition to these regular activities, children may, on occasion, be given some homework, gradually increasing in its demands, of other kinds.

Examples:

- finding out information;
- reading in preparation for lessons;
- preparing oral presentations;
- more traditional written assignments.

3.12 Care should be taken to ensure that not too much homework time is spent "finishing off" class work. This can often place too heavy a burden on some pupils and too light a demand on others.

3.13 The precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of tasks set and the way they are planned to support learning. However, a regular pattern is desirable, particularly for literacy and maths.

3.14 Broad expectations about the amount of time pupils might reasonably spend on homework provide a useful framework and discipline and are helpful to parents. Government recommendations, which we adopt, are:

**Reception** - 1/2 an hour a week (reading and phonics)

**Years 1 and 2** - 1 hour a week (reading and other literacy and **maths**).

**Years 3 and 4** - 1 1/2 hours a week (literacy and **maths** as for Years 1 and 2).

**Years 5 and 6** - 30-60 minutes a day (a regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy **and maths**).

**Year 1- Year 6**- To complete a variety of projects related to their history and geography learning each term.



#### **4. The Role of Parents and Carers in Supporting Pupils**

Parents will be asked to:

4.1 Do their best to provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework - alone or, more often for younger children, together with an adult.

4.2 Make it clear to pupils that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.

4.3 Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework.

4.4 At the beginning of the school year the school will send a letter to parents in order to:

i) inform them of regular routine homework expectations;

ii) provide links to relevant subject fact files in history, geography, science etc, which will offer parents the opportunity to reinforce their children's knowledge and experience by way of family visits to places of interest etc.

#### **5. Feedback**

Where homework is done together with adults, children will often receive immediate feedback. In the case of work they do on their own, it is very important that the children build on it and/or receive appropriate feedback as quickly as possible. This may be done through class work or through tests, or through individual comments from teachers, or through pupils reviewing their own work in small groups. The range of tasks set for homework should take into account the aim of keeping the workload of teachers manageable.



## **HOMEWORK: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS\*\***

As you are probably aware, the government requires all schools to provide homework for children throughout the primary school years, with an emphasis on it being an activity shared by the children with their parents or carers.

Using guidelines issued to schools by the government, we offer the following information that we hope will be helpful.

### **1. Definition of Homework**

"Homework" is taken to include any work activities that reinforce learning which pupils are asked to do out of school either on their own or with parents and carers.

### **2. The Purposes of Homework**

Homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and maths. It enables children to make use of learning opportunities of all kinds in their homes.

It encourages pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own by the time they reach Year 6,

### **3. Appropriate Types and Amounts of Homework**

The main focus will be on literacy and maths. Science and other subjects may sometimes be added to the programme as children move up the school. Each class will also be expected to complete a COJO project each term which is related to the class topic. Sometimes it will be a handwritten project, other times it may be word-processed. It may also be a model that the children are expected to build.

It is intended that parents and carers will take an active role by:

- encouraging children in their work (though not doing it for them!)
- fostering regular reading habits and the enjoyment of books.

Homework will be given out every Thursday and it will be expected to be returned no later than the following Wednesday.

Year 6 will be given much more regular homework in preparation for their SAT Tests in May.

**Pupils in Year 1-Year 6 will have a term to complete project homework.**

### **Spelling and tables tests**

From Year 2 upwards, weekly spellings will be given to pupils to learn. Children will be expected to access Spelling Shed (ED Shed) to learn their weekly spellings by completing the spelling tasks. The number given out will depend on the pupils' age. All pupils will have a week to learn their spellings. From Year 3 upwards pupils will be expected to practise their tables on Times Table Rock Stars at home too. Staff can log into TTRS to check who has/ hasn't been practising their tables.

The precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of tasks set and the way they are planned to support learning. However, there will be an underlying regular pattern, particularly for literacy and maths.



### 3. Where should Homework be completed?

- Children from Reception up to Year 6 will be provided with homework books in which to complete their work (but most will be set and completed on-line). These will be the responsibility of each child and pupils will be asked to pay a contribution of £1 in order to replace any books they lose.
- Children will be encouraged to keep a note at the back of their homework book of any internet sites they have visited to help them.
- Staff will, in addition, keep a diary of all homework handed in to them on time. This will be discussed with parents during consultation evenings.

### 4. Support for Children by Parents and Carers

- Please do your best to provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which your children can do their homework - whether they are working with you or alone.
- Please make it clear to your children that homework is of value in helping their learning.
- Please give encouragement and praise when homework has been completed.
- At the beginning of the school year each class teacher will inform parents:
  - i) of regular routine homework expectations.
  - ii) of topics planned. Parents may be glad of the opportunity this will present for furthering their children's knowledge and experience, for example by appropriate visits to a library, museum, place of interest etc.

### 5. Feedback

Much of what is set as homework will be intended to be done with an adult at hand, as explained above, so that children will receive instant feedback.

In the case of work done on their own, children will receive feedback in a variety of ways. This may be through class work or tests, through individual comments from teachers, or through pupils reviewing their own work in small groups.

**It should be noted that it will usually be the case that homework tasks will not necessarily be subjected to formal marking by teachers, although staff will always review work completed at home by children. This will be prohibited by their existing workload of lesson preparation and marking related to the very full curriculum that they are required to deliver at Loxdale Primary School.**

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Project work, however, will receive an overall comment from class teachers and children will receive certificates for completed 'Projects'.

*We hope that this information regarding our Homework Policy has proved to be useful. However, as always, we value any comments or feedback regarding the above.*



Appendices

**\*\* An example of weekly homework sent out to parents/carers:**

Online homework - I would like you to use your **Education City login**. It is in your green homework book! (You can access this on a laptop or tablet). You then need to go on to the **'My Homework'** section, where you will find your homework in a file called, **Y5Homework wb:20.9.22**. If you need help or it is not working check with one of your teachers.

Homework - Year 5 - To be complete by Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September					
Subject	What you are learning.		Tasks to be completed:		
Maths	Comparing and ordering numbers up to 1 million		Education city - learn it screens and then complete the activities - <b>you will not need to print these out</b> . Look at the screen and answer in your homework book if needed.		
Literacy	Superlatives activity		Education City: wb20.9.21		
Reading	Please remember that we need to be reading at home for at <b>least 10 minutes per day</b> and record your reading on the <b>GoRead</b> online log in in your homework book. Don't forget to tell the teacher if you need it changing.				
Science	Education City - The Solar System - task on Ed City. You can use your homework book again to complete this task.				
Spellings	Week 1	<i>accommodate</i> <i>accompany</i> <i>according</i> <i>achieve</i>	delicious infectious partial artificial	audacious ambitious spatial beneficial	auspicious cautious martial commercial
	See Spelling Shed (Ed Shed) for spellings tasks				

**Picture News** at Home

20<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
What's going on this week?



Following the trail of devastation left by Hurricane Ida across parts of North America, US President Biden declared that 'historic investment' is needed to deal with the impact of climate crisis. He has blamed climate change for what's happened and believes the country needs to be better prepared for extreme weather. Hurricane Ida tore across more than 1,500 miles of the USA and was one of the most well-forecast storms in recent memory, causing catastrophic flooding and destroying buildings in its wake.

Things to talk about at home...

- 🗨️ How do you think the people affected by Hurricane Ida may be feeling?
- 🗨️ When you go through difficult times, are you able to think of the positives?
- 🗨️ Do you think more money should be provided to help tackle climate change?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments here...





### Loxdale Primary School letter to parents:

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Please see below our homework expectations for pupils:

The children in Y1-Y6 will be asked to complete the following each day:-

- 10 minutes reading - evidenced on 'Go Read'
- 10 minutes times tables or number practice - (could be TT Rockstars or other sites from class teacher)
- 10 minutes spelling practice e.g. spellings written in sentences, short activities or look/cover/write /check. Access online on Education City or any educational sites. e.g. spag.com, Spelling Shed

Reception children will work up to this during Reception year, Year 1 and Year 2 & 6 may have additional homework in the run up to SATS, **the Y4 Multiplication Tables check** or the Year 1 phonics check.

Our children have told us that they like to do homework online and we would actively encourage them to do their work using the sites that they have log-on details for, or by using other educational applications. Log-on details can be found in their homework books.

In addition, the children will continue to have termly "project" homework. (This is also available on the school website and is emailed out to you).

If parents wish to do more with their children, then they are welcome to do so, in order to enhance their child's learning. We will welcome this in school and will always look at any work the children bring to us.

We hope that this will be less stressful for parents since times tables and spellings will be mainly on-line for children to complete independently. Please could we ask that parents do continue to hear their child read daily, as reading is the basis of all we do and **this is the biggest impact you can have on your child's learning.**

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Scott  
Head teacher