

Homework Policy 2023-24



At Hurley Primary school we believe that homework is an important aspect of a child's education. We believe it encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom as well as promoting independent learning, thus encouraging the child to take greater responsibility for their personal progress. Homework allows parents, carers and the school, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

While most parents do appreciate the value and importance of this homework, a few will feel that we do not set enough whilst others will feel there is too much. The amount and type of homework we set is at a level which we believe to be reasonable and manageable.

Aims

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective, parents, carers, staff and the children need to understand its purpose.

- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives children the opportunity to practice what they have learnt;
- It provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend children;
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their children's learning;
- It encourages children to share their learning with parents and carers;
- It promotes independent learning;
- It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning;
- It sets standards for life and children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for secondary school and future employment.

We value the support of parents and carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school. We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time'.

Reading

We would hope that children read daily and that reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. This would include fostering early reading skills, where appropriate. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accuracy when reading.

Homework Expectations

Homework is given on a regular basis across the school following the schedule below. Homework content may be set as a written piece of homework or may include reading, games and activities to reinforce English, Maths or other skills. At the end of each term, a homework challenge sheet will be sent home – children will be able to choose a challenge homework to complete either during the holiday or in the following half term.

Homework Expectations

Reception	Frequency & Time
Maths or English homework related to Reception's topic	Weekly 15 mins
Phonics/spellings practice	Phonics packs sent out occasionally
Reading to an adult at home/sharing stories/bedtime stories	Everyday
Handwriting packs	Weekly

Year 1	Frequency & Time
Weekly Maths or English activity (alternates each week)	15 min activity
Reading to an adult at home/sharing stories/bedtime stories	At least 3x per week
Spellings- learning spelling rules and patterns, learning year group specific words. Parents are encouraged to help their child to learn to say/spell these.	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10 mins
Homework challenge grid – topic/science/other subject	1 challenge per term (although children can do more if they wish) – set before Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. To be completed by end of following half term.

Year 2	Frequency & Time
Weekly Maths or English activity (alternates each week)	20 min activity
Reading to an adult at home/sharing stories/bedtime stories/reading own books independently	At least 3x per week
Spellings- learning spelling rules and patterns, learning year group specific words. Parents are encouraged to help their child to learn to say/spell these.	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10 mins
Homework challenge grid – topic/science/other subject	1 challenge per term (although children can do more if they wish) – set before Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. To be completed by end of following half term.

Year 3	Frequency & Time
Weekly Maths or English activity (alternates each week)	25 min activity
Reading to an adult at home/sharing stories/bedtime stories/reading own books independently	At least 3x per week
Spellings- learning spelling rules and patterns, learning year group specific words. Parents are encouraged to help their child to learn to say/spell these.	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10 mins
Maths passports practice – addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, telling the time	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10mins
Homework challenge grid – topic/science/other subject	1 challenge per term (although children can do more if they wish) – set before Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. To be completed by end of following half term.

Year 4	Frequency & Time
Weekly Maths or English activity (alternates each week)	25 min activity
Reading to an adult at home/sharing stories/bedtime stories/reading own books independently	At least 3x per week
Spellings- learning spelling rules and patterns, learning year group specific words. Parents are encouraged to help their child to learn to say/spell these.	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10 mins
Maths passports practice – addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, telling the time	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10mins
Homework challenge grid – topic/science/other subject	1 challenge per term (although children can do more if they wish) – set before Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. To be completed by end of following half term.

Year 5	Frequency & Time
Weekly Maths or English activity (alternates each week)	30 min activity
For confident readers, lots of independent reading. Sharing a book/reading to your child is still very important and rewarding. Listening to children read a few times a week and discussing the content that they read.	Everyday
Spellings- learning spelling rules and patterns, learning year group specific words. Parents are encouraged to help their child to learn to say/spell these.	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10 mins
Maths passports practice – addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, telling the time	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10mins
Homework challenge grid – topic/science/other subject	1 challenge per term (although children can do more if they wish) – set before Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. To be completed by end of following half term.

Year 6	Frequency & Time
Weekly Maths AND English activity - these may be from Maths and Grammar Revision booklets – as Y6 children will be completing their SATs at the end of Year 6, they will be provided with a revision booklet for the SATs. The class teacher will guide children on how to use and complete these books to aid their study.	30 min activity x 2
Independent reading/Sharing a complex book with an adult	Everyday
Spellings- learning spelling rules and patterns, learning year group specific words. Parents are encouraged to help their child to learn to say/spell these.	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10 mins
Maths passports practice – addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, telling the time	As often as possible – at least 3x a week. 10mins
Homework challenge grid – topic/science/other subject	1 challenge per term (although children can do more if they wish) – set before Christmas, Easter and summer holidays. To be completed by end of following half term.

Reviewed: SEPT 23

Review: By DEC 24

Example

Year X Autumn Term Challenge Sheet

Welcome to Year X.

In the Autumn Term we will be looking at the remarkable Romans and learning about how they affected Britain. In Science we will be _____

You can choose one or more of these homework challenges to complete over the next term.

Make a model of a famous Roman building. Please tell us about your model (write this in your homework book) and stick in a photo too.	Write a poem, song or rap about being a Roman soldier. Be ready to perform this!	The Romans were from Italy. Can you cook some Italian food? Please tell us about your cooking (write this in your homework book) and stick in a photo too.
Science		Design a pattern for a Roman shield or your own mosaic. Explain the reason you chose your design.
Read a book by a famous British author (Roald Dahl, David Walliams, Enid Blyton, JK Rowling, Beatrix Potter) and write a book review.	Make your own board game involving Maths. This could be any area of Maths. Take a photo of your game and stick it in your homework book. Show us at school how to play.	You are all amazing at lots of different things. Tell us about something you are good at – write about it in your homework book and include some pictures.
If you are off on holiday, send us a postcard (the school address). Tell us all about what you've been up to.	Complete any of the other homework activities using computers/ipads/tablets. Bring it in on memory stick or print it off and put it in your book.	Go on Bug Club, read some books and write a review about your favourite story.