

Stedham Primary School

Homework Policy



We believe that the right sort of homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and fosters an effective partnership between home and school.

At Stedham we value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement.

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.'

A breakdown of how homework is structured is provided below. This has been designed to encourage a gradual progression of skills and expectation so by the time children reach Year 6 they have established a clear routine in preparation for secondary school. Most of the homework is provided for completion over the course of a week so it can be made to fit around family lifestyles and commitments. Other homework e.g. reading, times tables and spellings are proven to be better when completed in shorter daily sessions.

Rabbits Reception and Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children should read or be read to at least three times a week.• Children will be asked to bring things in during the year to enhance learning activities.• When the children are ready (usually after October half term for Reception children), they will start having sounds (and later 'tricky' words) to practise at home.
Owls Year 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children should read or be read to at least three times a week.• Children will be asked to bring things in during the year to enhance learning activities.• Children will have sounds and tricky words to learn at home.• A maths activity will be set for each individual child to meet their current learning needs (e.g. number bonds, times tables, etc.) This will be regularly checked and updated by the class teachers.
Badgers Year 3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children should read at least three times a week.• Spellings – set Tuesday to be tested the following Tuesday.• Times Tables – set Thursday to be tested the following Thursday.
Foxes Year 5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children should read at least three times a week.• Spellings – set Tuesday, tested the following Monday.• Times tables – set Friday, tested the following Friday.

There may be occasions when homework is not set for a particular class as per the timetable, for example in the last week of term or when there are other expectations placed upon the child such as learning lines for a school production. This will be communicated to parents. It is the expectation that when teachers have planned absences on the day homework is set or tested, provision is made for this to still take place. If a teacher is absent short term due to illness, the normal homework timetable will resume on their return.

The Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- promote this policy by raising its status and importance;
- provide supportive guidance for parents if requested;
- keep up to date with new developments with regard to homework;
- monitor and evaluate this policy and its implementation at least annually and as the need arises in response to parental comments.

The Role of the Teachers

Teachers must:

- where appropriate, set differentiated tasks in maths and spelling/reading;
- explain when, what and how the work is to be done so that each child clearly understands;
- return any marked work / give feedback on outcomes of tests to children within one week.

The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are asked to:

- **ensure their child reads at least 3 times a week.**
- sign the Home-School Agreement indicating their support for homework;
- praise the value of homework to their children;
- provide a suitable space in their home where their children can concentrate on their homework;
- establish a homework routine such as no television;
- provide materials pens, pencils etc.;
- if needed, go through the homework before their child starts and discuss the completed work;
- find time to work with their child or be at hand if a problem arises;
- discuss, encourage and praise their child's efforts;
- contact the school if they are not sure of some aspect of the homework or if their child is experiencing difficulties in doing it / it took much longer than expected.

The Role of Children

Children are asked to:

- listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them;
- complete their homework using appropriate writing materials, following the same rules of presentation as is expected for in school work;
- have a go at all their homework activities and if necessary, ask for help to complete it before the due date;
- hand homework in on time / be prepared for tests;
- make sure they read and if necessary ask questions about any feedback on their homework.

Feedback

All children will receive prompt feedback on their homework in a variety of forms such as:

- verbal (1-1)
- written
- class discussion

Sanctions

Our expectation is that unless there are exceptional circumstances, homework will be completed and returned by its due date. Repeated failure to complete work may result in the class teacher asking to talk to parents about the situation to see how it can be resolved.

This policy was reviewed in September 2017

Next review date: January 2018 following dialogue with parents around homework over the Autumn Term.