



Homework Policy 2016

Lower Farm Primary

Approved date.....

Review date.....

Headteacher.....

Chair of Governors.....

Rationale:

Feedback collected from parents indicates that a consistent approach to homework is required. The school is of the opinion that homework is important since it reinforces and extends the teaching and learning that occurs during the day. Homework encourages parental involvement in children's learning and helps to develop independence. It is important however to remember and make it known to parents, that when a child has worked for a full day in school he/she may not respond positively to having large amounts of homework.

Aims:

Our aims of providing homework are to:

- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Deepen, consolidate and further challenge pupils learning
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepare Year Six children for the secondary phase of education

Expectations:

Broadly speaking these are our current expectations across school:

Nursery – termly activity packs to reinforce early phonics/number recognition.

Reception –

- Reading everyday for 10 mins with an adult.
- One activity sent home per week based on phonics sessions carried out in school. This may be written and/or practical according to the needs of the child.
- One activity sent home per week after the first half term for maths - this will take the form of a published homework activity pack which parents will work through with their child.

Year 1 and 2 –

- Weekly Phonics/Spelling homework-15-20 minutes per week
- Weekly Maths homework-15-20 minutes per week
- Reading- the children in Year 1/2 are expected to read for around 10 minutes per day.

- Occasional homework tasks linking to other areas of the Curriculum

Years 3 and 4 -

- 10 mins reading a day with one session a week being aloud to adult.
- 5 mins spelling a day.
- 20 mins a week Mathematics/ multiplication facts work.
- There will also be a SPAG activity every other week lasting around 10 minutes

Years 5 and 6 -

90 minutes spent on homework per week which will consist of:

- Daily reading
- Rehearsing of times tables and related facts
- Spelling practice
- A Maths and English task

In the few weeks prior to SAT tests, the Year 6 children will be given additional revision work.

The times are a guide and an indication of how long a child should spend intensively working on their homework. Children should be encouraged to discuss any problems they are having with their teacher. It is not acceptable for children to struggle excessively, causing upset at home. Obtaining parental support is of paramount importance.

A Homework Club will be provided if needed for children (Years 1-6) who wish to do some of their homework at school and support will be provided. If a child does not complete their homework on more than three occasions concerns will be discussed with parents.

Homework will:

- Increase as children get older
- Be interesting and relevant to the class work
- Be encouraged by a positive approach
- Encourage parents to support their children's work by providing where possible a quiet undisturbed environment
- Be marked by the class teacher/team member if handed in on time
- Not necessarily be written work
- Following these guidelines will help children to develop independence, realise their full potential and prepare them for the next stage in their education.

Although there is no legal requirement to have a Homework Policy, these guidelines have been drawn up in line with recommendations.

It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks. The exception will be where the parent and teacher agree extra work would be beneficial.

What to do if you have concerns:

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently please talk with your child's teacher in the first instance.

If you still have concerns, please talk with Mrs Milner, the Headteacher.