

# Warden House Primary School

## Homework Policy



Created: September 2018  
Agreed by the Governing Body:  
Review date: Autumn 2020

### Purpose

- Developing an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school. This is also, of course, the purpose of home school agreement
- Consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding, particularly in English and mathematics
- Exploiting resources for learning, of all kinds, at home
- Extended school learning, for example, through additional reading.
- Encouraging pupils as they get older to develop confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of the Secondary school.

### Approach

Homework builds on learning in the classroom or acts as an opportunity for research or pre-learning before a topic or concept is taught. It enables the class teacher and the parent to confirm that the child has an understanding of a subject and helps to instill and develop a sense of determination and independence about work at home. If a teacher sets homework, there is an expectation that this will be completed by the set date.

Homework can be set across the entire curriculum but will predominantly relate to core concepts in reading, spelling, punctuation, grammar and mathematics.

Homework will be provided on a consistent basis, with sufficient time allowed for the completion of the task. Children will be given clear instructions about the activity to be undertaken. The amount of time taken on a piece of homework will vary according to the ability of the child.

### Time allocation for homework

- **Year R:** 1 hour per week (reading, word lists and phonics)
- **Year 1:** 1 hour per week (reading, spellings and other English work)
- **Year 2:** 1 hour per week (reading, word lists, spellings, mathematics and occasional topic work)
- **Years 3 & 4:** 1.5 hours per week (reading, spellings, English and Maths work with occasional assignments in other subjects)
- **Years 5 & 6:** 30 minutes per day (regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on English and mathematics, but also ranging widely over the curriculum)

Every class teacher produces topic plans published on the school website with suggested home learning opportunities.

### Role of the parent / carer

The parent is expected to support and encourage the child by giving time and a home environment in which homework can be done. The class teacher will, as far as possible, ensure that the child is completely clear on what they are expected to do at home, so that junior children in particular, are able to communicate this to the parent. It is hoped that this will encourage the children to develop a deepening understanding of our school values of responsibility, independence and determination.

Children benefit enormously from being able to discuss what they have done with their parents. This is not to suggest that the parent should spend time altering or correcting the child's work but rather discuss it and suggest how it might be done differently or improved. Constructive comments enable the child to develop a better understanding of the work and reinforce what is taught in school.

Reading is a crucial aspect of school work and needs to be encouraged at all times. A child who reads widely and with enthusiasm is often able to translate this into written work. It is not always possible for an adult to hear a child read at school every day. It is most important, therefore, for a parent to try to hear their child read as often as possible, to discuss the plot and characterisation and ask the child questions about what has been read. Younger children need to be heard on a regular daily basis, older children may, however, be expected to read independently and silently to themselves. The school tracks the regularity of reading through home contact books and through the Accelerated Reader scheme and will contact parents of children whose reading falls below the expected regularity to ensure regularity in reading at home is maintained.

It is hoped that parents will support the school in encouraging their children to develop a responsible attitude to their homework. We also hope that should there be any issues relating to the homework set, parents are encouraged to speak with their child's class teacher to resolve the matter.