



LADYBARN PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME WORK POLICY

November 2016

HOMEWORK POLICY

Date: November 2016

Review November 2019

The homework policy has been regularly reviewed in the light of comments retrieved from parental questionnaires and parental consultations.

We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in maths, English and other curriculum areas, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents/carers and children to work together and, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

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. Parent/carers support in homework is vital and part of that are discussions between parents/carers and their children during homework activities, which may include activities aimed at supporting speaking and listening.

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 expectations so by the time children reach Year 6 they have established a clear routine in preparation for high school. Most of the homework is provided for completion over the course of a week, fortnight or term so it can be made to fit around family lifestyles and commitments. Other homework e.g. reading, multiplication tables, spellings are proven to be better when completed in shorter daily sessions.

Foundation stage	<p>Nursery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the spring term, children will take home a book to ‘read’ and a book to share. The book to read will initially be a lilac coloured sticker book. These books do not have any words and are designed to allow children to retell the story using the pictures. When the children are ready, they will then begin to progress through the reading colour book bands. • The book to share will be a longer, more traditional story book and the expectation is that the adult would read this book to the child and talk about a story. • Workshops for parents will be held to explain these processes once a half term. • Over the year children will have the opportunity to take home the class mascot and the diary. They are encouraged use the diary to record what activities the child and mascot completed together. <p>Reception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In reception children take home an individual reading book at the appropriate level. They are expected to read this every night. On a Friday children take a story book home from the library to be shared and enjoyed with parents. • Children in reception also have a key word book which they learn to read HFW (high frequency words) by sight. They work towards achieving a badge when they can read all the words from each phase. • Children will bring home a ‘Talking Homework’ question each week. This is to help develop your child’s speaking and listening skills and to increase their vocabulary. • Children are rewarded for doing their homework.
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KS1 - Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be given a theme linked homework sheet each half term which covers English and art/craft activities. Children can choose from a range of activities and do one each week. The children will bring in what they have created on a set day each week so the homework can be celebrated. • Spellings will go home during the half term and will be tested weekly in school, this will include previous weeks words in order to reinforce learning; • Children are expected to read at home each evening. The reading diary should be completed each time; • Children will be given a maths activity weekly. This will reinforce the work completed in school that week.
KS1 – Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be given a theme linked homework sheet each half term which covers English and art/craft activities. Children can choose from a range of activities and do one each week. The children will bring in what they have created on a set day each week so the homework can be celebrated. Spellings will go home during the half term and will be tested weekly in school, this will include previous weeks words in order to reinforce learning; • Children are expected to read at home each evening. The reading diary should be completed each time; • Learning of times tables will be on going throughout the year and tested weekly, this will include previous weeks times tables in order to reinforce learning; • Children will be given a maths activity weekly. This will reinforce the work completed in school that week. • After the autumn parents evening children have additional maths and English homework from the Rising Stars revision booklets which are provided by school.
KS2 – Years 3 to 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be given a theme linked homework sheet each half term which covers English, maths and art/craft activities. Children can choose from a range of activities and do one each week. The children will bring in what they have created on a set day each week so the homework can be celebrated. • Children will be given a maths activity weekly; when appropriate, additional English homework will be sent home. • Children are expected to read at home each evening. The reading diary should be completed each time; • A spelling list will be provided and will be tested within school weekly, this will include previous weeks words in order to reinforce learning; • Learning of times tables will be on going and tested in school weekly, this will include previous weeks times tables in order to reinforce learning; • Work related to the topic may be sent home throughout the term.
KS2 - Year 5 to 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be given a English and maths activity weekly; • Children are expected to read at home each evening. The reading diary should be completed each time; • A spelling list will be provided and will be tested within school weekly, this will sometimes include previous weeks words in order to reinforce learning; • Learning of times tables will be on going. Learning of multiplication and corresponding division facts on going which will be checked through regular mental maths tests, this will include previous weeks times tables in order to reinforce learning;Children will have a badge to work towards and tests at the end of each term will confirm if they have achieved this. • Work related to the topic may be sent home throughout the term; • Extra work will be sent home throughout the year in order to prepare for SATs and high school.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Autumn 2, children will have additional maths and English homework to complete from the Rising Stars booklets which are provided by school.
ICT	<p>Years 1-6</p> <p>Teachers set differentiated homework and children can access their homework on a computer. Children who do not have access to a computer and the internet, can complete the activities in school or get a paper copy. The aim is that no child will be at a disadvantage due to not having computer access at home.</p>
Timings	<p>The time during a week each year group takes is approximate and will depend on the child and the activity, but as a rough guide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery- 20 minutes • Reception – 30 to 40 minutes • Years 1 and 2 - 45 minutes to 1 hour • Years 3 to 5 - 1 hour • Year 6 - 1 to 1 ½ hours. In summer 2, as experience for transition to high school, teachers will set homework with a range of different deadlines to help children to begin to organise their own time.
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework will be set to make sure that children can access the learning. Children may need support materials sent home to allow them to access the homework. It may be appropriate for children to have homework which is aimed at their individual targets. • From time to time school may be needed to support children in completing homework. If this is the case teachers will endeavour to support children throughout the week in completing homework • From setting activities to returning to school will be long enough to not disadvantage children with active lifestyles outside of school eg not set on Friday to be returned Monday
Marking / Feedback	<p>All children receive feedback on their homework in a variety of forms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal • Written • Class discussion • Praise and recognition <p>Depending on the task, marking of homework could be done by a variety of people ie teacher, teaching assistant, peer marking, self-marking. Teachers will always be given feedback on accuracy, presentation and effort in order to support or praise.</p> <p>Parents are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage their children to talk about the feedback they have received; • Contact the school if they have any concerns
Governing body	<p>The Governing Body has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegated powers and responsibilities to the Strategic Management Committee and to the Headteacher to oversee the development of this policy; • Nominated a link governor to visit the school regularly, to liaise with the Headteacher and to report back to the Governing Body; • Responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.
Headteacher	<p>The Head of School will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote this policy by raising its status and importance; • Ensure that homework is built into teachers planning; • Provide supportive guidance for parents; • Keep up to date with new developments with regard to homework; • Monitor and evaluate this policy

Teachers	<p>Teachers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate homework into their planning; • Set interesting tasks or activities; • set homework appropriate to each child; • Set tasks and activities designed to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding in maths and english and enhance cross curricular teaching; • Explain when, what and how the work is to be done so that each child clearly understands; • Provide examples of some activities to support home; • Where appropriate differentiate to cater for the children’s level; • Ensure that feedback either written or verbal is given; <p>It is very important that children complete homework tasks, in key stage 2 if they are not completing tasks and there are no issues in accessing the tasks parents will be spoken to and a letter will be sent home to remind of the importance of homework. If this continues homework will need to be completed during golden time (before missing golden time children are offered the opportunity to complete their homework during playtime).</p> <p>There is a homework club available for children and parents on a monday night after school.</p>
Parents/carers	<p>Parents/carers are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.; • Go through the homework before their child starts and discuss the completed work when finished; • Make the experience pleasurable; -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; • Contribute to school evaluation
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are asked to: • Complete their homework and hand it in on time; • Listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked • Of them; • Contribute to pupil interviews and pupil questionnaires on homework • For the school to monitor and evaluate; • Make sure they get feedback on their homework; • Highlight to the school council any ideas they may have about homework • Complete their homework using appropriate writing materials have a go at all their homework activities
Review	<p>The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed every two years or when the need arises, and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be made to the governors.</p>

Updated November 2016