



Faith, Family and Fascination

Homework Policy

Boutcher C.E. Primary School

Reviewed by: Megan Whitton

Last reviewed during: Autumn 2023

Next review due by: Autumn 2024

*“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”
John 13:34*

HOMWORK POLICY

Working at home can help develop a child's self-discipline and promote a motivating attitude towards study and learning. We want to work in partnership with parents and carers to provide an effective homework system that enables all children to consolidate and reinforce their learning at home. Homework is set and children are encouraged and expected to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life.

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- ensure that parents and carers are clear about what their child is expected to do
- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment
- consolidate and reinforce pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding of work covered in class
- develop an effective partnership between home and school and enable parents and carers to share in their child's learning
- encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline to study independently
- to prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school

Equal Opportunities Statement

At Boutcher C.E. Primary School, we are committed to ensuring homework is suitable for all children having regard to ability, social and cultural background, physical and emotional needs. We will endeavour to balance individual needs with the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Organisation and Delivery

Information about homework is shared with parents and carers during a coffee morning at the start of the autumn term. Homework is set on Google Classroom each Wednesday and completed homework must be uploaded and / or returned to school (depending on the task) by the following Wednesday at 8:30 am.

If a child does not bring / upload their completed homework to school on Wednesday, they will be required to complete the homework at lunchtime.

Teachers are not obliged to mark late homework.

We offer a weekly homework club for Key Stage One and Key Stage Two.

Homework Tasks

Reception

Each week, every child in Reception is required to:

- read daily (three signatures and a comment in reading record each week required)
- learn five high frequency words on flashcards
- complete a phonics activity related to the work in class – a video will be posted on Google Classroom by the class teacher

Completing and Returning Homework:

- Reading Records and reading books should be brought to school every day
- the completed phonics activity should be uploaded to Google Classroom

Marking and Feedback:

- staff will check Reading Records daily
- the class teacher will review uploaded homework and may comment

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Years One and Two

Each week, every child in years one and two is required to:

- read daily (three signatures and a comment in reading record each week required)
- learn ten spelling words (five in year one) and complete a related task
- spend 25 minutes each week (recommended to be completed as 5 minutes each day) practising number bonds on NUMBOTS.

Once a child has completed NUMBOTS to diamond level with three stars they will move on to practise times tables recall on Times Table Rock Stars with the same expectation of 25 minutes each week.

Returning Homework:

- Reading Records should be brought to school every day
- spelling homework is to be uploaded to Google Classroom by 9am the following Wednesday
- time spent on NUMBOTS and TTRS will be checked on Monday morning

Marking and Feedback:

- staff will check Reading Records daily
- the class teacher will review uploaded homework, mark it and may leave individual feedback – the marking code can be seen below (appendix 1)
- a certificate will be awarded in assembly to the child that earns the most coins on NUMBOTS/TTRS

Missing Homework:

- If a child does not bring / upload their completed homework to school on Wednesday, they will be required to complete the homework at lunchtime.

Years Three, Four and Five

Each week, every child is required to:

- read daily and record three comments in their reading record each week, answering a question about their reading from the question stems provided. One of these comments must be from an adult who has heard them read
- complete a SPaG task set by the class teacher
- learn ten spelling words and complete a related task
- to read the news article posted on Google Classroom and engage in the discussion through commenting on the stream.
- spend 25 minutes each week (recommended to be completed as 5 minutes each day) practising times tables recall on Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)

Returning Homework:

- Reading Records should be brought to school every day
- spelling homework is to be uploaded to Google Classroom by 8:30am the following Wednesday
- comments on the Week Junior article should be posted on the stream in the comments
- time spent on TTRS will be checked on Monday morning

Marking and Feedback:

- staff will check Reading Records daily
- the class teacher will review uploaded homework, mark it and may leave individual feedback – the marking code can be seen below (appendix 1)
- a certificate will be awarded in assembly to the child that earns the most coins/stars on TTRS /NUMBOTS

Missing Homework:

- if a child does not bring / upload their completed homework to school on Wednesday, they will be required to complete the homework at lunchtime.
- they will also be required to miss 5 minutes of their morning playtime for each missing piece of homework.

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Year Six

To help prepare the children for their transfer to secondary school, they are set short daily tasks.

Daily homework consists of:

- read daily and record a comment in their reading record, answering a question about their reading from the question stems provided. Once a week one of these comments must be from an adult who has heard them read.
- five maths questions (these will be set to consolidate prior learning).
- practise 10 spellings each night, learning the spelling rule/ pattern using look, cover, write, check.

Weekly homework consists of:

- spend 25 minutes each week (recommended to be completed as 5 minutes each day) practising times tables recall on Times Table Rock Stars.
- to read the news article poster on Google Classroom and engage in the discussion through commenting on the stream.

Returning Homework:

- Reading Records, Daily Maths books and Spelling books should be brought to school every day
- comments on The Week Junior should be posted in the comments on the stream on Google Classroom
- time spent on TTRS will be checked on Monday morning

Marking Homework:

- staff will check Reading Records daily
- daily Maths homework will be marked with the children and misconceptions addressed as a whole class and on an individual basis where the need arises.
- spelling homework is checked daily
- a certificate will be awarded in assembly to the child that earns the most coins on TTRS

Missing Homework:

- if a child does not bring / upload their completed homework to school, they will be required to complete the homework at lunchtime.
- they will also be required to miss 5 minutes of their morning playtime for each missing piece of homework.

At times, across all year groups, another task may be set related to work in class.

Role of the Class Teacher

- to set regular homework in an easily followed routine
- to ensure that the homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught – there shouldn't be new learning but rather opportunities to consolidate classwork
- to reward and praise children for high standard of homework
- to mark homework appropriately following the Google Classroom Marking and Feedback Code (see Appendix 1) providing a written comment if necessary.

Role of the Head Teacher and the Governing Body

- to meet and talk with the parents when appropriate
- to discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented

Role of Parents and Carers

- to support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework
- to become actively involved and support their child with homework activities
- to make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning
- to alert teachers to difficulties in accessing Google Classroom if these occur

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We are keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

Monitoring and Review

Our Homework Policy is shared with staff, parents and governors.

All staff are given the Homework Policy, its importance is explained and staff are given the opportunity to comment on the policy.

Parents receive information about the school's Homework Policy when their children join the school.

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Appendix 1

Google Classroom Marking and Feedback Code

Score	Comment
9 - 10	Excellent! This is exactly what is expected. You are clearly focused and your work is of a high standard.
7 - 8	Well done! This is a good standard of work but you have some errors to address or improvements to be made.
5 - 6	Satisfactory. However, I know you could do better.
3 - 4	Improvement needed. This isn't the standard that you are capable of and is disappointing.
1 - 2	Needs serious improvement. This standard of work is unacceptable.