



## Delves Lane Primary School

### Homework Policy

Article 29 - Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Article 30 - You have the right to practice your own culture, language and religion - or any you choose. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.

**The school policy for homework was developed and agreed by the whole staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body.**

#### **Aims**

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

#### **The Nature of Homework**

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
5. Homework should be set weekly from the Early Years to Year 6.

#### **Homework Tasks**

Listed below, for each Key Stage of Delves Lane Primary School, are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

#### **Early Years**

These may include:

Reading books

Sound books

Word Box books

Spelling shed (online)\*

Reciting nursery and counting rhymes

Fastening and unfastening buttons and tying shoelaces

#### **Key Stage 1**

These may include:

Reading books  
Spellings via Spelling Shed (online)\*  
Times Tables via Times Table Rock Stars (online)\*  
One piece of homework accessed by google classrooms (online)\*  
Literacy activities including story maps

## **Key Stage 2**

These may include:

Reading books  
Spellings via spelling shed (online)\*  
Times Tables via Times Table Rock Stars (online)\*  
Literacy activities including story maps  
One piece of homework accessed by google classroom (online)\*

\*If children do not have access to internet then a paper copy of the homework will be made available

## **See Appendix 1**

## **Pupils with special educational needs**

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework to pupils who are named on the register of special needs, we refer to the Education Support Plans and Progress Plans.

## **Role of the Class Teacher**

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by:
  - a) a note with the work on google classroom or on the paper copy
  - b) at a pre-school parents meeting or at an open evening if possible (this may be virtual).
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes in the Year group.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework appropriately, when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

## **Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body**

- To check compliance of the Policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

## **Role of Parents/Carers**

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their 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.

At Delves Lane Primary School we are very 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 act as a guide and do not give answers. 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.

## **General**

- Wherever possible staff including teaching assistants should try to mark any homework that is returned by pupils as required. This will help to give the whole process of setting and completing homework a higher profile and status. It will also send out the message that homework is an important and valued aspect of school life. Marking homework is a way of keeping track of who has completed their homework, and giving them feedback on how well they have met the objectives of

the work. However, marking may be done in a variety of forms, some of which will not be written. Feedback may be given to individual pupils, or to groups of pupils.

- If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. **In such circumstances, the teacher should consult the Deputy or Head Teacher first.**
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.

Reviewed October 2020  
Miss H Webb

## Appendix 1

### Early Years

- Nursery rhymes sent home for children to practise (Nursery)
- Phonic reading books to be sent home on a Monday and returned to school by Friday.
- Spelling shed activities/Spellings set, uploaded or given out on a Friday and completed by the following Wednesday

### Key Stage One

- Homework to be sent out on a Friday. Online activities and paper copies to be completed and uploaded or handed into school by the following Wednesday.
- Home reading books to be sent home on a Monday and returned to school by Friday.
- Spelling shed activities/Spellings set, uploaded or given out on a Friday and completed by the following Wednesday
- Times Table Rock Stars activities/Times tables set, uploaded or given out on a Friday and completed by the following Wednesday

### Key Stage Two

- Homework to be sent out on a Friday. Online activities and paper copies to be completed and uploaded or handed into school by the following Wednesday.
- Home reading books to be sent home on a Monday and returned to school by Friday.
- Spelling shed activities/Spellings set, uploaded or given out on a Friday and completed by the following Wednesday
- Times Table Rock Stars activities/Times tables set, uploaded or given out on a Friday and completed by the following Wednesday

Any other homework is sent at the teacher's discretion

The amount of homework and time taken to complete homework will increase as the children move through the school

### **Covid 19 notice – see also Remote Learning Policy**

In the event that classes, year group bubbles, groups or individual children need to self-isolate due to COVID19, we need to provide remote education (home learning).

We will only provide remote education (home learning) in the following circumstances:

1. A child has to isolate for 14 days because they have been in 'close contact' with someone who has tested positive at school. School will contact Public Health and communicate immediately with those families affected.
2. A child has to isolate for 14 days because someone in their household or support bubble has tested positive
3. A child has tested positive and needs to isolate for at least 10 days from the day their test was taken