

Northwick Park Primary and Nursery Academy

Homework Policy

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Northwick Park Primary Academy we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Why give homework?

- ❖ It can inform parents about work going on in class.
- ❖ It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning.
- ❖ It takes advantage of the home environment and the resources and the chance for some one to one adult time.
- ❖ It can benefit all of the class as information found out at home can be shared.
- ❖ It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as number bonds, times tables, doubling facts, addition and subtraction calculations, spellings and other key facts.
- ❖ It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of secondary school.

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, Northwick Park Primary Academy is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We also appreciate that children gain valuable experience and life skills through clubs, activities and family outings. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore, burden or source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines.

We hope the children will be motivated by rewards given and by the tasks themselves. Children will not be punished if they fail to complete the work,

however discreet homework registers are kept and if a child consistently fails to complete tasks, this will be discussed with the child and parent.

Homework expectations

All pupils will be expected to read at least three times a week. In addition, pupils will either have key words to learn to read or spellings to practise each week.

Reception

Homework will start during the second half of Autumn term once the children have settled. They will be given one piece of homework each week related to their current learning.

Years 1 to 5

Children will be expected to complete one piece of topic based homework each half term. They will be provided with a list of possibilities although this is open to the children's creativity and ideas. Activities could include writing, drawing, computer based work, cooking or model making.

Every child in Years 1 to 5 will bring home a homework book containing key maths objectives. Children will be encouraged to practise these at home and hand in their book weekly so their teacher can monitor their progress. Every half term we will formally assess these key facts in class and then update their homework book.

Year 6

In preparation for secondary school, pupils will be expected to complete one piece of English and one piece of maths work each week.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	
*Reading three times a week – starts Autumn term week 1 *Weekly high frequency words * One piece of homework each week related to their current learning – starts Autumn term second half	*Reading three times a week – starts Autumn term week 1 *Weekly spellings *One piece of topic based homework each half term – starting Autumn term second half *Maths key facts to practise throughout the half term - starting Autumn term second half	*Reading three times a week *Weekly spellings *One piece of topic based homework each half term *Maths key facts to practise throughout the half term	
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
*Reading three times a week *Weekly spellings *One piece of topic based homework each half term *Maths key facts to practise throughout the half term	*Reading three times a week *Weekly spellings *One piece of topic based homework each half term *Maths key facts to practise throughout the half term	*Reading three times a week *Weekly spellings *One piece of topic based homework each half term *Maths key facts to practise throughout the half term	*Reading three times a week *Weekly spellings *One piece of English and one piece of maths homework each week

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil (or pen if they hold a pen license).

Homework Club

Homework club is offered to all pupils from Year 1 to Year 6. A member of staff is always available to support your child with reading, spelling and maths. Please see the club list for days and times or ask in the office.

What to do if you have concerns

If you have any concerns regarding your child's homework please see the class teacher in the first instance. If you still have concerns, please ask to speak to the Head, Deputy or Assistant Head teacher.