



Bryn Offa Homework policy

May 2021



Introduction

At Bryn Offa C of E Primary School, we believe that homework can add much to a pupil's development and attainment and is therefore an important part of a child's education.

Aims of the Policy

Through the implementation of this policy, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest;
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school;
- Encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, self-discipline and motivation needed to study on their own and prepare them for the homework expectations of secondary school;
- To make homework relevant and meaningful for the child by linking it to work completed in class;
- Make expectations about homework clear to children, parents and other carers; and
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

Why do we value homework?

Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. By valuing home-school learning, pupils are afforded the chance to practice skills, consolidate understanding of work covered in the classroom and to widen their own interests. Moreover, developing good study habits provide an opportunity for pupils to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

Principles

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored to the child's age and ability;
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance; and
- As the children progress through the school, the amount of homework increases.

Foundation Stage

- Reading and sharing books daily; parents/carers to keep a written log in their child's reading record.*

Key Stage 1

- Reading/sharing books at least 4 times a week; parents/carers to keep a written log in their child's reading record;
- Children given a list of spellings to learn on a Friday which will follow the spelling patterns taught in their class or linked to the curriculum. They will then be tested on their spelling words on the following Friday; and
- Learning and consolidating multiplication facts which will, at times, use a web based resource.*

Lower Key Stage 2

- Reading/sharing books at least 4 times a week; pupils to keep a written log in their reading record and this will need to be signed by the parents/carer on a weekly basis;
- Children given a list of spellings to learn on a Friday which will follow the spelling patterns taught in their class or linked to the curriculum. Pupils will then be tested on their spelling words on the following Friday; and
- Learning and consolidating multiplication and division facts which will, at times, use a web based resource. Pupils will then be tested on these facts on a Friday. *

Upper Key Stage 2

- Reading/sharing books at least 4 times a week; parents/carers to keep a written log in their child's reading record;
- Children given a list of spellings to learn on a Friday which will follow the spelling patterns taught in their class or linked to the curriculum. An additional handwriting sheet will be provided to aid with their Procedural Memory (often referred to as muscle memory). They will then be tested on their spelling words on the following Friday; and
- Learning and consolidating multiplication and division facts which will, at times, use a web based resource. Children will have a weekly assessment on a Friday of all of the multiplication facts (up to 12x12) in any order, mixed and to include division.

*occasional, topic related, homework may be set which will either replace the above or be completed in addition to.

How you can help your child with their homework?

It is the expectation that all children will, at least, attempt to complete their homework tasks to the best of their ability. If your child is struggling with any aspect of their home learning, please contact the class teacher as soon as possible.

Below is a list of ways that you, as a parent, can show your child that you value their homework and the time and effort spent completing it.

You can show you value your child's homework by:

- Providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support;
- Making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning;
- Encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set;
- Ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time; and
- Checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on their homework.

Additionally, you can support your child's development by:

- Accessing the various of curriculum areas located on the school's website;
- Visits to libraries, museums etc;
- Cooking with them;
- Taking your child swimming;
- Playing game, e.g. board games, cards, ball games;
- Watching informative TV programmes together;
- Providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc;
- Gardening and growing plants;
- Using the internet to research something with your child; and
- Talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning.

Remember: Enthusing your child about undertaking homework and modelling the high value of homework is of key importance.

Adopted by governors on – 30th June 2021