

Lancasterian Primary School

Homework Policy



Version No.	Date	Approved by	Review Frequency	Review Date
5	January 2024	Governors	+2 years	January 2026

Aims

Homework is an opportunity to prepare for, consolidate and extend the learning which takes place in the classroom. **Research shows that homework has the best impact where it is focused on building fundamental skills.**

Through homework we aim to:

- Encourage children to take an interest in and responsibility for their own learning and to become independent learners;
- Encourage an enthusiasm for research and investigation;
- Extend and support learning through reinforcement and revision;
- Provide additional opportunities for children to practice and enjoy reading, spelling, number bonds and times tables;
- Raise standards of attainment, particularly in English and maths;
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership and involve parents in their children's learning;
- Prepare year 6 children for secondary transfer.

Reading at the heart of our homework policy

Early Years Foundation Stage

- In Nursery, all parents are encouraged to change books daily, choosing from a range of genres – poems and rhymes, stories, non-fiction etc.
- In Reception, books will be changed weekly and a comment will be recorded in the home-school diary by a member of staff. Parents are expected to read the schemed book regularly at home with their child and make a comment each week. Parents can support their child to learn high frequency sight words to improve fluency in reading.

KS1 and 2

The expectation is that all children must read daily for at least 20 minutes. Younger and less confident readers will need one-to-one support from an adult. All children are offered 3 books to take home weekly:

- A book **at their instruction reading level** (phonetically decodable for those on the phonics programme). This is for the children to read independently with support from an adult at home.
- A book **from their book corner or 'Reading Road Maps' scheme** of their choice to enjoy at home. To either read independently or to have an adult read it to them.
- A book **from the school library** of their choice to enjoy at home. To either read independently or to have an adult read it to them.

Weekly reading is recorded in a home Reading Record to encourage parent/teacher communication. Comments should be recorded **daily** by an adult at home for the book at a child's instructions level for an adult at school to monitor. Any other books read can be recorded additionally. As children get older they are encouraged to take responsibility and can record their own comments with a parent signing off to confirm they have indeed read on those days.

Children should bring in their reading book and their signed reading record to school where it will be checked **once a week** by a member of staff. Dojos may be used as a reward for bringing in the reading record.

What other homework tasks do we give?

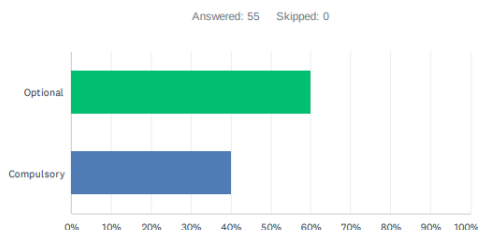
Early Years Foundation Stage

- Children's observations and photographs will regularly be uploaded on to Tapestry online journals. Parents are encouraged to comment on their child's Tapestry journal and share home observations and pictures with their child's key person.
- Parents will receive their child's next step for learning each term during parents evening. This will have a Maths and Literacy focus for children to work on at home.
- In the Spring term, Reception children will be sent high frequency words fortnightly to practice.

KS1&2

The following parent survey results were taken into consideration for homework tasks:

Q1 Do you want homework to be optional or compulsory? (Reading, spellings and timetables practice would still happen weekly regardless)



- KS1/2 online homework is optional.
- Reading, spellings and timetable or number bond practise is expected each week; this will be given in paper form.
- KS1 will be assigned weekly optional online Numbots homework. In KS2, children will be assigned weekly optional online Times Tables Rockstars homework.
- Optional online homework will be set on the J2E platform. SEND and EAL children will have appropriate work assigned to them, according to their ability and needs.
- Teachers may also give their classes occasional projects to complete across several weeks, relating to their current class topic.
- Y6 children may receive additional SATs practice work throughout the year.
- Teachers may send home ad hoc tasks linked to in-school learning; this is with the aim of addressing misconceptions or recapping learning.
- Teachers will check homework completion each week and Dojos can be used as a reward; however, teachers are not expected to give written feedback on homework.
- Pupils also have access to the London Grid for Learning resources which can be found at <https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/grid> and which they can access online at any time. Ideas can also be found on the school website.

Working in partnership with parents/carers

Research confirms that where parents are positively involved in their children's learning, self-esteem and confidence grows and greater progress is made. With this in mind, at Lancasterian Primary School we seek to develop a partnership with parents/carers in supporting their children's learning. We need to make every effort to ensure that homework does not become an unnecessary burden on either children or their parents/carers.

We will:

- aim to set homework regularly and consistently according to school policy;
- match homework to the ability of the child;
- ensure that it should take no more than 10 – 30 minutes (depending on the age/ability of the child);
- make every effort to ensure that it is clear what is required for any work sent home;
- maintain a regular dialogue with parents about homework through reading records, informal chats in the playground, parents' evenings etc;
- be understanding about issues at home and the difficulties homework may present in some family situations and provide advice and support for children and families in getting homework done;

We ask parents/carers to:

- make it clear to their children that they value homework and its place in developing children as learners;
- provide, where possible, a reasonably peaceful time and place for their children to do their homework with the support/encouragement of an adult;
- encourage their children to do their homework and return it to school on time;
- praise their children when they have completed homework;
- maintain a regular dialogue with teachers about homework through reading records, informal chats in the playground, attendance at parents' evenings etc;
- ask teachers for help if their child is having difficulties with homework set;