

Lancasterian Primary School

Homework Policy



Version No.	Date	Approved by	Review Frequency	Review Date
4	January 2021	Governors	+2 years	January 2023

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 focussed 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 recorded in the home-school diary. 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 and all children should have their reading record signed **each day** at home by an adult. 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.

- Key Stage 1 – Books are changed a minimum of once week, but children should read every day. The reading record should be checked and initialled weekly by a member of staff. From time to time a comment may be added. Parents can support their child to learn high frequency sight words to improve fluency in reading.
- Key Stage 2 - Children in years 3-6 can take home book corner books or library books and change them as and when they need to.

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. 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 weekly to practice.

KS1&2

- KS1 and 2 teachers will assign students 1 piece of work per week through the platform J2E in preparation for possible remote learning in the future. Teachers will leave a comment on 2 students' work per week to get accustomed to the system. Children who do not have access to a tablet or computer will be given a printed copy.
- In KS2, children will take part in a weekly timed Times Tables Challenge administered in class.
- Spellings will be given weekly for a test administered in class.
- Teachers may also give their classes occasional projects to complete across a number of weeks, relating to their current class topic.
- Y2 and Y6 children may receive additional SATs practice work throughout the year.
- 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.
- In KS1 and 2, teachers may assign students tasks on Times Tables Rock Stars.
- We will send children's books home twice a year to provide an opportunity for parents to see and share what the children have been doing at school. There will also be a chance to see books at Parents' Evening.

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 hope that parents/carers will:

- 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.