



# **Brookhill Leys Primary & Nursery School Homework Policy**

## **Introduction**

This policy has been agreed by the whole staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body. The policy was approved by the Governing Body in Autumn 2013. The policy has arisen from parents requesting a consistent and clear guide and approach to homework across school.

## **Rationale for Homework**

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school.

It is a very important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development. Children can benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home with their parent's support. At Brookhill Leys we see homework as an important example of co-operation and communication between teachers and parents.

## **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote co-operation and communication between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

## The Amount of Homework Set

The DFE (Department for Education) provide national recommendations about the amount of homework set for children each week. These guidelines provide a benchmark as to the amount of homework set at Brookhill Leys Primary & Nursery School.

- Years 1 and 2 1 hour/week (reading, spellings, other literacy work and number work)
- Years 3 and 4 1.5 hours/week (literacy and numeracy as for Years 1 and 2 with occasional assignments in other subjects)
- Years 5 and 6 30 minutes/day (regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy but also ranging widely over the curriculum)

These are guidelines and parents can use them at their discretion as to how and when homework activities are completed with their child. Children are generally more responsive if they have a set pattern and a comfortable space to work and concentrate. Children will have a range of homework set either by the class teacher or through education city.

### Education city

All children have access to education city, they have a password to access this at home where they can complete their homework set by their class teacher. The website is [www.educationcity.com](http://www.educationcity.com).

<b>Stage of learning</b>	<b>Types of homework</b>	<b>When homework is set and when it is to be returned</b>
Foundation Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing books together</li> <li>• Occasionally there may be specific number games</li> <li>• 'Big Talk'</li> <li>• Phonic work</li> </ul>	Ongoing and differentiated to the ability of the children. With the exception 'Big Talk' homework which will be set every Thursday
Year 1 and 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly Numeracy work (either practical or on education city)</li> <li>• Literacy – Reading: At least four home reads a week</li> <li>• Weekly Spellings</li> <li>• Phonic Activity</li> <li>• Occasionally children will be asked to research information for a topic they are learning about in class</li> <li>• 'Big Talk'</li> </ul>	Numeracy and Literacy homework to be set Thursday and completed by Wednesday Phonic activities set Monday and completed by the following Monday
Year 3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly spellings</li> <li>• Weekly Numeracy work (either practical or on education city)</li> <li>• Daily reading at home</li> <li>• Literacy (either practical or on education city)</li> <li>• 'Big Talk'</li> <li>• Occasionally children will be asked to research the topic they are studying in class</li> </ul>	Homework to be set Thursday and completed by the following Wednesday
Year 5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly spellings</li> <li>• Weekly Numeracy work (either practical or on education city)</li> <li>• Daily reading at home</li> <li>• Literacy (either practical or on education city)</li> <li>• 'Big Talk'</li> <li>• Occasionally children will be asked to research the topic they are studying in</li> </ul>	Homework to be set Thursday and completed by the following Wednesday

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## **Marking of Homework**

We value that each child has taken the time and effort to complete tasks given and will ensure that all homework is marked and feedback given. Work completed well will be acknowledged and praised. If there are issues that arise from the homework the teacher will take the opportunity to link with ongoing work or to work individually with the child in class. Teachers will track and monitor individual children's homework completed on Education city.

Your child may be given differing homework to others to support their personal requirements.

## **The procedure to follow when your child is not sure about what to do.**

Homework is about enjoying learning and complementing what is happening at school. If a child is unsure about what to do a parent or carer can see the child's class teacher after school and an explanation can be given. In some instances it may be that the homework is adjusted to complement a child's need at that given time. A child should be able to complete the homework they have been set as it is set according to their ability.

The class teachers are available at set times, often during a lunchtime to go through homework with individual children.

## **Collating Children and Parent views.**

Children's views about homework are periodically sought usually through the forum of our School Council. Parents complete a questionnaire once a year and homework is included. The findings of this questionnaire are reported to the Governing body.

## **Monitoring**

It is the Curriculum Committee of the Governing Body who undertakes to monitor the school homework policy. The policy is part of a review cycle of policies and will be considered each year.

## **Additional Guidance**

- If children are absent due to illness the school will not send work home. The assumption is made that the child is not well enough to complete the work if they have been unable to attend.
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in school time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should place a note in the child's personal organizer. If a more detailed discussion is needed please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.
- Homework will not always be a written or recorded activity. It may involve playing a game, carrying out a practical activity or undertaking a piece of research.
- Children who complete their homework, especially reading, are more likely to meet their annual targets in school.

## **Review**

**To be reviewed by Committee and staff in Summer 2015**

