

Cheddon Fitzpaine Church School

Homework Policy

1. RATIONALE

- At Cheddon Fitzpaine Church School, we believe that homework is an important aspect of a child's education. It encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom and promotes independent learning, thus encouraging the child to take greater responsibility for their progress.
- Homework allows parents, carers and the school, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

2. AIMS

- Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective parents, carers, staff and the children, need to understand its purpose.
- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives children the opportunity to practise what they have learnt.
- It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning.
- It promotes independent learning.
- It provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend individual children.
- It sets standards for life and accustoms children to working at home, preparing them for secondary school.
- It encourages children to share their learning with parents and carers.
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their children's learning.
- It provides an opportunity for teachers to assess pupils' independent learning.

3. READING

- We want to promote a love of reading in every child.
- Until children are independent readers, it is important that they read with and to an adult (at home) on a daily basis. Sharing books with your child is a valuable way to encourage and foster a love of reading.
- Once children can read independently, they do not need to read aloud to an adult everyday, but it is still important to hear them read once in a while to ensure accurate reading, and to talk to them about the books they are reading to ensure that they understand what they are reading.

4. HOMEWORK SCHEDULES

- Homework is given on a regular basis across the school as set out below.

- From time to time, homework may include a longer piece of work in response to a particular activity, such as topic work or an educational visit. Typically this will be making a model, carrying out some independent research or similar.
- Depending on the task, homework may be handwritten or word processed on a computer. In Key Stage it may also use IT skills for research.
- Each teacher will inform parents, carers and pupils of their specific homework timetable through the curriculum newsletters.

Foundation Stage

- Reading - Children will be sent home with a reading book. These books will be changed regularly. Children should read with an adult for 5-10 minutes each night.
- Spelling/Phonics - Weekly phonic sheets to practise sounds that have been taught during the week ,or 'tricky' words
- Maths - Maths activities that can be carried out at home will be listed on the curriculum newsletter every half term.
- Topic - A termly expectation that 1 'starter', 'main' and 'dessert' will be completed from the 'Topic Menu'. Dates for completion of the different parts of the menu will be published on the School Calendar.

Key Stage 1

- Reading - Children should read to an adult at home for short bursts of 5-10 minutes on a daily basis. They will have a reading book each day.
- Spelling/Phonics - Weekly phonic sheets to practise sounds that have been taught during the week ,or 'tricky' words
- Maths - Children will practise mental Maths skills each week.
- Topic - A termly expectation that 1 'starter', 'main' and 'dessert' will be completed from the 'Topic Menu'. Dates for completion of the different parts of the menu will be published on the School Calendar.
- Teachers will offer parents/carers guidance on how to read with and to children and what types of questions to ask when sharing books. Guidance and a list of books that have been read or are in the process of being read are kept in the Contact Book.

Key Stage 2

- Children who are not independent readers should read daily to an adult. Levelled reading books will be sent home by the school.
- Children who are independent readers may choose their reading books and should share their books with an adult at home at least three times a week. This may include reading to an adult or just talking about the book they are reading.
- Spelling/Phonics - Weekly phonic or spelling sheets according to children's grouping.
- Maths - Children will practise spellings and mental Maths skills each week.

- Topic - A termly expectation that 1 'starter', 'main' and 'dessert' will be completed from the 'Topic Menu'. Dates for completion of the different parts of the menu will be published on the School Calendar.

6. MARKING and FEEDBACK

- Reading contact books are checked regularly to monitor that the desired quantity of reading is occurring.
- Homework will be collected and marked on a regular basis.
- All year group teachers will inform parents, carers and pupils of their specific timetable at the beginning of each school year. Any permanent alterations will be communicated.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES

- It is our expectation that homework will be completed carefully and on time. If a child does not complete homework at home, they will complete it in their own time at school.
- Teachers will offer opportunities through the week to provide support for children to help them with any homework that is confusing or difficult to complete.
- Where homework is frequently missing or not completed, late or of poor quality, the child's parents or carers will be contacted by the class teacher.

8. INCLUSION

- All children will have access to homework that is relevant to their current stage of learning. Homework will follow the homework timetable for each year group, but will be differentiated to provide the appropriate challenge for each pupil.

9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- All children will be provided with equal access to homework. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, ethnicity or home background.