

Duffield Meadows Primary School

Homework Policy



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Headteacher's signature: 

Chair of Governors' signature: 

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Statement of intent

Duffield Meadows Primary School is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which pupils are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling education.

We believe that homework plays an important part in the education our pupils receive.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to ensuring homework is well-balanced across the school.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practise and a deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant statutory and good practice guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2019) 'Ways to reduce workload in your school(s)'
- Ofsted (2019) 'School inspection handbook'
- Ofsted (2019) 'School inspection handbook - section 8'

1.2. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Marking and Feedback Policy
- Creative Curriculum Policy
- Behaviour Policy

2. Responsibilities

2.1. The headteacher and governing board are responsible for:

- Frequently checking the policy's compliance with statutory and good practice requirements.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing the policy every two years and making appropriate updates as required.
- Discussing with staff the extent to which this policy is being implemented.
- Meeting with parents as appropriate.
- Providing parents with information about homework.
- Informing new parents about the Homework Policy.

2.2. Teachers are responsible for:

- Planning and setting up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Providing an explanation of homework tasks and ensuring that all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensuring all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Setting homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities.
- Monitoring homework regularly and making sure pupils are completing it.
- Marking homework and giving feedback to pupils.

- Communicating with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Being available to parents and pupils for a discussion about homework.
- Setting homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensuring homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Rewarding quality work and praising pupils who regularly complete homework.

2.3. Parents are responsible for:

- Supporting and encouraging their child with regards to completing homework.
- Becoming involved in their child's homework and encouraging their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Making sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Providing suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Praising their child and celebrating achievements with regards to their homework.
- Informing teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operating with the school to find a solution.
- Keeping the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and ability to complete homework effectively.
- Encouraging their child to discuss homework and feedback from teachers.

2.4. Pupils are responsible for:

- Taking responsibility for their own learning and submitting completed work in a timely manner.
- Having a positive approach towards homework.
- Putting the same effort into homework as class work.
- Making sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seeking clarification if required.
- Taking pride in the presentation and content of their homework and performing to the best of their abilities.

3. Our approach to homework

- 3.1. Homework should not become a source of stress or upset and if it does cause problems, the teacher should be contacted to discuss the problem.
- 3.2. Not all homework will involve activities to be done without an adult. In many cases it is the involvement and engagement of an adult in the activity that is important.
- 3.3. The amount of homework set for pupils increases as they progress through school.
- 3.4. Regular reading is of paramount importance throughout primary school. All children benefit greatly from reading with their parents or carers as often as possible, or, if they are fluent readers, they will benefit from reading a wide range of books on their own.
- 3.5. We do not set specific amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. However, below are suggested times for regularly set homework:

<i>Foundation Stage</i>	Reading	1 hour a week
<i>Key Stage 1</i>	Reading, spellings & times-tables	1-1.5 hours a week
<i>Key Stage 2</i>	Reading, spellings, times-tables & maths	1.5-2 hours a week

In addition, topic-related project homework is set every term. From Year 2 onwards, science homework may also be set.

- 3.6. Class teachers will inform parents and carers of significant changes to 3.5.

4. Absences

- 4.1. If a pupil is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods - pupils should be well enough to undertake any work supplied.
- 4.2. There may be exceptions to 4.1 and the classroom teacher will decide whether homework should be set on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.3. If a pupil is absent for a long period of time, e.g. with a broken arm, the teacher and the parents of the pupil will agree on what should be done and how much help should be provided.

5. Pupils who fail to complete homework

- 5.1. All pupils are expected to complete homework on time.
- 5.2. Teachers keep records of pupils completing homework which are regularly checked.
- 5.3. If pupils fail to complete homework, teachers contact parents to find out why.
- 5.4. Pupils who refuse to complete homework will be disciplined in line with the Behaviour Policy (open defiance).

6. Marking homework

- 6.1. Homework may be marked in a variety of ways, in accordance with the school's Marking and Feedback Policy.

7. Pupils with SEND

- 7.1. A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the pupil's parents and the SENCO.
- 7.2. The school recognises that pupils with SEND may require specific tasks to be set, as outlined in their individual education plans.
- 7.3. While pupils with SEND may benefit from differentiated tasks separate from the homework received by other pupils, it is important that they also complete as much standard homework as possible.

8. Equal Opportunities

- 8.1. The school is committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background.
- 8.2. All pupils have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

9. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every three years by the school staff.

Appendix 1: Homework Agreement Form

Please complete this form and return it to the school. It will be filed and is an important part of our Home-School Agreement.

Pupil's name: _____

Class: _____

I have read and support the Homework Policy and recognise its importance to my child's educational progress and development.

Signed: _____ (Parent)

Date: _____

I will do my homework every week.

Signed: _____ (Pupil)

Date: _____

