

Royton Hall Primary School



Homework Policy

Approved by: Headteacher

Last reviewed: Autumn 2023

Next review due: Autumn 2025



Introduction

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.

Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development.

We see homework as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of **independent** learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, *we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development.* While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

Aims and objectives

- 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 cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- to enable some aspects of the curriculum to be further explored independently
- to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

Homework is always acknowledged and, according to the task, is either marked or used in class to support learning. Homework completed well is acknowledged and praised.

We recognise that children have individual learning styles, which means that some tasks can be completed in a number of different ways, while others demand a particular approach.

Amount of homework

As they move through the school, we increase the amount of homework that we give the children. We expect children in Key Stage 1 to spend approximately one hour a week on home activities, and this may well include reading with a parent. We encourage children in Years 3 and 4 to spend approximately one and a half hours on homework type activities per week, and children in Years 5 and 6 to spend approximately two hours a week.

The role of parents and carers

Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. Although homework will be differentiated as appropriate to encourage independence, we invite parents to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary, and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

Ideally parents should read with their children every day to help them develop a love of books and stories and help them to grow in confidence. We ask parents and carers to sign their child's Reading Record to show that they have heard their child read and discussed their books with them on at least three occasions during each week.

If parents and carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy, or the way in which it is implemented, parents or carers should contact the Headteacher.

Use of ICT

A copy of the school's E-Safety policy can be found on the school website. The child's safety is paramount in all matters regarding use of the internet and we advise parents and carers to always supervise their child's access to the internet. *(It is strongly recommended that parent controls be used on the Internet).*

The use of ICT and the Internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. However, our teachers expect their pupils to produce their own work, perhaps by editing something they have found, or by expressing it in their own words. The children are not achieving anything worthwhile by copying, pasting and printing out something that has been written by somebody else.

Monitoring and review

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. The committee of the governing body that deals with curriculum issues does this. The Senior Leadership Team in consultation with teaching staff reviews our homework policy annually.

Year Group	Homework Activity	Due
Nursery	Weekly library book to share	Book will be sent home on a Friday and are to be returned to school on a Thursday
Reception	Weekly library book to share Phonics reading book <i>(fully decodable and matched to your child's phonic knowledge)</i> Phonics Record	Book will be sent home on a Friday and are to be returned to school on a Thursday
Year 1	Weekly library book to share Phonics reading book <i>(fully decodable and matched to your child's phonic knowledge)</i> Phonics Record	Book will be sent home on a Friday and are to be returned to school on a Thursday
Year 2	Weekly library book to share Phonics reading book <i>(fully decodable and matched to your child's phonic knowledge)</i> Phonics Record Time Tables Rock Stars <i>(Summer term)</i>	Book will be sent home on a Friday and are to be returned to school on a Thursday Weekly
Year 3	Reading book Spellings Time Tables Rock Stars	Reading book to be brought into school every day Sent home every Friday and tested the following Friday Weekly
Year 4	Reading book Spellings Time Tables Rock Stars	Reading book to be brought into school every day Sent home every Friday and tested the following Friday Weekly
Year 5	Homework activity sheet Daily reading Written task Spellings Time Table Rock Stars / Arithmagicians	Sent out on a Monday and to be completed by the following Monday
Year 6	Homework set in homework book Daily reading Comprehension task Spellings	Sent out on a Friday and to be completed by the following Friday

