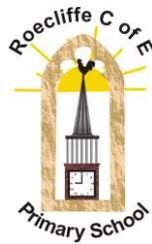


POLICY

Homework

September 2015



Roecliffe Church of England Primary School
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Rationale

At Roecliffe Church of England Primary School we believe that pupils' learning is strongly influenced by the home.

The interest and involvement of parents in a child's learning and education is very important in helping them achieve their potential. Homework not only provides pupils with the opportunity to reinforce their learning but also gives parents the chance to be involved in helping their child progress to the best of his/her ability.

We aim to:

- ✓ consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding.
- ✓ extend school learning, for example through additional reading and research.
- ✓ encourage pupils develop the confidence and self discipline needed to work independently.
- ✓ develop an effective partnership between the school and parents/carers.

The main focus of homework is on developing literacy and numeracy skills. Regular reading is vital as it gives pupils an opportunity to practice and rehearse the skills which are being taught in school. Spending time discussing the story or book helps pupils to understand what they have read.

Each Week:

- ✓ Each class (Years 1-6) will be set a literacy / mathematics task each week.
- ✓ In EYFS, homework will be appropriate to the age and the developmental goals.
- ✓ **Mathematics** will support the main focus for the half term (e.g. in Autumn term the focus is calculations and place value). There is support for parents available via our Maths page of the school website, where our Calculations Policy is available to download.
- ✓ **Literacy** will predominantly support phonics, spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- ✓ **Reading** is expected **every night** – this should be recorded in Contact Books.
- ✓ **Homework will be handed out on Friday each week, and is due in on the following Tuesday. Handed into the homework trays in the classrooms. This will be checked, marked and returned to pupils the following Friday.**
- ✓ **Once homework is handed in, the Contact Book will be signed by school staff to acknowledge this.**
- ✓ Each half term there will be a Homework Grid – these are cross-curricular opportunities, and provide creative learning and encompass all areas of the curriculum.
- ✓ **It is expected that the minimum number of tasks are completed from the Grid, each half term.**
- ✓ The Homework Grid will be stuck in the front of homework books so that teachers can monitor progress with these tasks throughout the half term.

'What makes homework effective?'

Effective homework is:

- Equally weighted to both mathematics and literacy.
- Encourages the children to work independently.
- Engages the children so that are keen to complete it.
- Takes into account the interests and needs of pupils in the class.
- Suitable for the age group.

This is what we've agreed...

Homework will:

- ✓ Be regular and frequent.
- ✓ Supports individual progression in school.
- ✓ Be engaging and appropriate for the age, interest and ability of the children.
- ✓ Clear instructions with examples will be given for each homework activity so the purpose of the task is clear.
- ✓ Tasks set will usually complement work the children have done in school at a differentiated level where appropriate. Some tasks set for homework are open ended which means all children are able to complete the task at their own level.
- ✓ Be completed at home to the same standard as they produce in school. For example, writing should be completed using pencil or handwriting pen. All work should be named and dated.
- ✓ Be marked and feedback given to the children in line with school policy.
- ✓ Manageable for pupils and parents/carers on a day to day basis.

In school support

If any child does not understand a task, parents should encourage their child to ask their teacher for further guidance, or should write a note in the Contact Book for the teacher.

The role of parents/carers in supporting pupils

Parents need to support their child with homework by providing a peaceful environment, free from distractions, in which they can work independently to complete it to the highest standard. Parents should make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the school by explaining how it can help their learning, and supports development of all areas of learning.

The role of the pupils

Children should take pride in their homework and ensure they hand in well-presented homework in on time **every week**.

**Mrs Kerry Dalton,
Headteacher**