

## Federation of Abbey Infant and Junior School Homework Policy and Guidance

**“Homework” refers to any work or activities which pupils are requested to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.**

Abbey Infant and Junior School believe that the purposes of homework are:

- To develop an effective partnership between school and home in pursuing the aims of the school
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding particularly in literacy and numeracy
- To exploit resources for learning of all kinds at home
- To extend school learning through additional reading, learning and knowing basic number facts and learning spellings with support from home
- To encourage pupils to develop confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own and preparing them for the requirements of junior and secondary school

Homework is not compulsory. Whilst the school appreciates and advocates home learning we know how hard the children work in school. We also acknowledge that children lead busy lives outside school. Therefore should parents/carers wish to withdraw their child from home learning for any reason they may do so.

Abbey Infant and Junior Schools will undertake to standardise home learning across year groups and across phases. We recognise that there needs to be consistency and all staff will use the following as guidelines:

**The type and amount of home learning which is appropriate for pupils of different ages:**

**Nursery children are not set homework.**

However, the expectation is that when children bring library books home, parents or carers will spend time with the children sharing and talking about the book

**Reception approximately 10 minutes every night, dependent upon your child's level of concentration**

To include:

- Helping your child learn Jolly Phonics letter sounds
- Sharing books with your child
- Helping your child learn words from the High Frequency Word list

**Year 1 and 2 approximately 1 hour a week**

To include:

- Regular reading at home
  - Listening to your child read their school reading book or any other suitable book
  - Reading to your child
  - Discussing content of reading material to check for comprehension
- Helping your child learn their spellings
- Literacy work and Number work

Spelling lists in Year 1 and Year 2 are sent home at the beginning of each half term, so that both parents and children are aware of which spellings are being worked on in any particular week. Spelling tests are held on a Friday.

At Abbey Infant School, class teachers will be responsible for setting homework for the children in their care and for sending home the Topic Web relating to that particular half terms work so that parents can stimulate their child's interest

by visits to the library, visits to places of interest and relevant activities.

### **Year 3 and Year 4 approximately 1.5 hours a week**

#### **EITHER**

- Regular reading at home - at least two sessions of fifteen minutes:
  - Listening to your child read a book, comic, leaflet, newspaper
  - Reading to your child
  - Discussing content of reading material to check comprehension

#### **OR**

- Helping your child learning spelling rules and patterns
- Ensuring that your child **knows** addition/subtraction bonds; **knows** multiplication and division facts

#### **PLUS**

- Literacy homework - up to thirty minutes per week to consolidate school learning
- Numeracy homework - up to thirty minutes per week to consolidate school learning

### **Years 5 and 6 approximately 2.5 hours per week**

- Regular reading at home - at least two sessions of fifteen minutes:
  - Discussing content of reading material to check comprehension
- Helping your child learning spelling rules and patterns
- Ensuring that your child **knows** addition/subtraction bonds; **knows** multiplication and division facts
- Literacy homework - up to thirty minutes per week to consolidate school learning
- Numeracy homework - up to thirty minutes per week to consolidate school learning
- Research projects as and when they arise

## **Special Educational Needs**

Children who are receiving support in school will be identified and given homework that supports their learning.

- Thus, children will be asked to learn to read/write/ high frequency words
- Read or be read to
- Number bonds to 10, 20, 100
- Multiplication tables
- Division tables

Extra work in these areas will allow your child to have greater access to learning in school and support in these areas should never be underestimated.

**At Abbey Junior School all home learning, including spellings and numbers, will be set on Thursday and will be expected to be given in or tested the following Tuesday.**

It is difficult for teaching staff to chase those children who are not giving in homework at the correct time and certainly cannot be expected to mark several pieces of homework that have been handed in late. Neither is homework compulsory.

However Staff at Abbey Infant and Junior Schools will:

- Mark homework that is given in on time
- Monitor completed homework
- Record scores in spellings tests
- Record scores in mental maths

In the event of children falling behind in attainment and achievement, booster learning before or after school or during the lunch hour may be offered. Children may be assigned a Y6 pupil to support their learning.

**The role of supporting parents and carers in supporting pupils**

**We recognise that some of the teaching and learning methods may differ from those that parents/carers are familiar. At the start of each new school year, workshops will be organised as part of 'Meet the Teacher' evenings.**

In general terms parents and carers should, in the Government's view be encouraged to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do the work alone or supported by an adult
- Make it clear to pupils that they value home learning and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- Encourage homework to be handed in on time
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework

**In the event of this being difficult for parents/carers, there is a study club EVERY LUNCHTIME at the Junior School where children can complete homework. However the responsibility for doing so rests with the child.**