



Yarrells School & Nursery

HOMEWORK POLICY

Policy Lead (Position (and Initials)): **Assistant Head (LS)**

Date of Last Review: **September 2021**

Date of Next Review: **September 2022**

At Yarrells, we believe that homework is an important aspect of a pupil's education and development as a student. Homework should embed what children have been learning in school and is another means to developing their learning experience. It should encourage independent study and reasoning as pupils pursue their own lines of enquiry, follow up on what has been learnt or sometimes prepare for work that will be covered at school. Homework forms part of our belief that we should extend and challenge our students in order for them to progress and succeed beyond expectations.

Parents are expected to support the school and their child in seeing that homework is completed. Parents are encouraged to be supportive of their child and willing to help them as necessary. They should not, however, complete the work on their child's behalf. Parents should also ensure that the children have a suitable, quiet area in which to work and that the child is provided with the basic equipment necessary to complete the homework.

Teachers are expected to communicate with parents and should encourage parents to discuss any queries or issues to do with homework. Should either parents or teachers experience difficulties regarding the satisfactory implementation of homework, parents and teachers should communicate and this should be addressed with the child appropriately through mutual agreement.

Homework is marked regularly, and valid comments are made, where appropriate, in order to assist the pupils in learning and achievement. *Please refer to marking and feedback policy.*

The content and amount of homework will vary according to the child's age and capabilities. Children are assigned increasing amounts of after-school preparation as they move up through the school.

Squirrels

On a Monday the children are introduced to a sound which becomes the sound of the week. This is detailed in the weekly email which parents receive on a Friday. They are encouraged to bring in objects from home to put on the sound table to relate to the sound. On a Friday, they will be given a weekend challenge to reinforce the sound, which will be posted on tapestry. Then you can post on Tapestry photos of the Friday challenge and how your children got on with it.

Reception

During the Autumn term, children will initially receive a phonics pack on a Friday containing the focus sounds from the week, along with decodable words, letter formation activities and our focus 'Tricky' words. Once the children are ready, they will receive a reading book, which will be changed every day. On a Friday, the children will receive a 'Weekend challenge' linked to their topic or maths and literacy focus, via the parent email. The children are encouraged to work through 'Mathletics' at their own pace and at times will be set an activity to complete for their 'Weekend Challenge'.

Year 1

Reading books are sent home every day. Each week, the children will have a phonics activity to complete and one other activity based on the current week's learning. Children are encouraged to do 'Mathletics' at their own pace and in addition to this, the children will have a log-in for 'Teach Your Monster to Read' during the Spring Term. Travelling animals are sent home at the weekend and children are encouraged to write a diary entry.

Year 2

A spelling list is sent home once a week, which is also on spelling shed to practice. An English or maths activity plus a science or humanities activity are sent home once a week. Children are encouraged to use 'Mathletics' at home and are sometimes set tasks as their weekly homework. Reading books are sent home every day. Children work on their times tables as appropriate for their ability.

Year 3

Pupils are expected to read every day. They are given a weekly spelling list to learn as well as times tables, at a level appropriate to their ability. They are also given either a weekly maths or English prep. At times, the English task may take a cross-curricular form to support learning in humanities or science. During longer holidays, a creative, child-initiated task is set related to the humanities topic.

Year 4

Year 4 are assigned one piece of maths homework on a Wednesday to be back in on the following Monday. We also encourage pupils to practise their times tables for a weekly Times Table Olympics challenge. They will be given a spelling list to learn each week and are expected to practise their spellings and read every day. In addition, the pupils will be given a grid of 12 cross-curricular project-based activities that incorporate our topic, science, and English at the beginning of each half term. Pupils will then choose which activities they would like to complete as homework and present to the class over the half term. If homework is given during the holidays it will usually be a creative project-based piece focusing on their topic.

Year 5

Year 5 have two homeworks most nights during the term. They are given homework in English, mathematics, science, geography, French, history and art. These will normally be half an hour in duration. They are encouraged to read on a daily basis. In some subjects they may be given a project or research with clear guidelines and deadlines to encourage independent learning.

Year 6

Year 6 have two homeworks a night and they are encouraged to read every night. They are given homework in English, mathematics, science, geography, French, history and art. These will normally be half an hour to 45 minutes in duration. In some subjects they may be given a project or research with clear guidelines and deadlines to encourage independent learning.

Year 8

Years 8 have two preps a night and are encouraged to read every night. They are given homework in English, mathematics, science, geography, French, history, RE and art. Prep should take 45 minutes. In some subjects they may be given a project or research with clear guidelines and deadlines to encourage independent learning.

All children are encouraged to take part in 'Times Tables Rockstars,' to strengthen their recall of times tables. All pupils have spelling lists to learn regularly and use spelling Shed. In addition, Spanish is encouraged through the use of 'Active Learn' for 15 minutes a week.

Musicians are expected to be independent and practise regularly at home. A timetable of homework is published for each term and agreed by senior staff.

It is the responsibility of subject teachers and/or form tutors to ensure that children who have not completed homework are provided with an opportunity to catch up with missing work. If there are concerns with homework- we must communicate with parents. Homework is set on TEAMS for Y5, Y6 & Y8 and they have a homework diary.