WINGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy Statement for

Homework

Subject leader: Jane Mullarkey
Date formulated: May 2005
Approved by GB: July 2005
Date for Review: November 2018

Rationale

Homework is an important way to consolidate what is being taught in school as well as providing a communication tool for parents and carers. It is a discipline that is employed to develop independence and self management for pupils as well as creating an opportunity to prepare for secondary school.

Aims

- To develop independent learning.
- To develop the skill of self discipline.
- To encourage collaboration, co-operation and the sharing in the home of systems taught in school.
- To provide children with the opportunities to communicate their ideas and work with parents/carers.
- To encourage the development of positive attitudes to home study.
- To provide opportunities to read together with an adult.

The National Curriculum

The National Curriculum describes what must be taught in Key Stages One and Two. Each teacher at Wingrove School follows this detailed guidance thus ensuring continuity and progression in the teaching and learning of each subject.

Cross Curricular Links

In order to create a cohesive and meaningful learning programme for our children, we try to identify links during the planning stage and give children the opportunity to use their subject knowledge and skills in real contexts. We then attempt to develop these at home through homework activities.

Organisation

Homework in the nursery is through home lending library every week as well as a handwriting sheet to show correct formation. In Reception children are given word lists to learn and home-school reading books. In KS1 homework is increased to include weekly spellings and maths as well as additional fact finding/research linked to other subjects.

In key stage 2 homework includes the above and may include science and additional literacy work for example comprehension exercises, grammar work, sentence work, character descriptions, SATs practice papers etc..

Children who play musical instruments in school will be expected to practise at home and may be given extra homework related to the music lessons.

From time to time we may ask children to bring in something from home to support work in school. This may take the form of information gathering, photographs, artefacts etc…

Differentiation Techniques

Homework is differentiated by ability for example in the level of spellings and reading book given. Homework will always be linked to work being covered in class and where possible an example will be shown to support children and parents on the strategies employed in school.

Record Keeping

At Wingrove we are continually assessing our pupils and recording their progress. Homework is part of the learning process and returned homework is recorded and

kept in teacher's records. It is also discussed during Assertive Mentoring meetings between teacher and pupil. Children who do not complete their homework are given the opportunity to complete it during playtimes. The parents of children who fail to return homework on a regular basis will be informed by letter from the class teacher.

Equal Opportunities
As a staff we endeavour to maintain an awareness of, and to provide for, equal opportunities for all pupils. We aim to take into account cultural background, gender and any special need, both in our teaching attitudes and in the published materials we use with our pupils.

Children with Specific Needs (English as an Additional Language or Special Educational Needs)
Where ever possible we aim to fully include all pupils with in all lessons so that they benefit from listening and participating with others in demonstration, discussion and explanation.

Where necessary teachers will, in consultation with the specialist Inclusion Manager, draw up and individual plan for the child. Where appropriate children may work on an individualised programme with support or specialist staff. Children may then be given separate homework that is appropriate for each need, this may include additional equipment.

Maths and English
Maths and English homework is provided weekly and should take 10 – 15 minutes in KS1 and 15 –20 minutes in KS2. The work set consolidates or extends previous class-based learning and may not always require written recording. We encourage teachers to set homework which makes use of the home context. Children will also bring home a list of weekly spelling and times tables to learn for regular tests. They will also have a specific reading book which is taken between home and school each day.

Design and Technology
Homework in Design and Technology is not prescribed and is given at the discretion of each teacher. This may occur in a cross-curricular link with another subject.

Music
Homework will be set for pupils who are learning to play tuned musical instruments and to support all performance work.

P.E.
Homework is not given in P.E. although many children use the after school clubs available to improve and develop their skills.

Geography
Geography homework will be given out when deemed appropriate by the class teacher.

History
History does not form a specific part of the school's homework policy, however teachers may wish to encourage children to further their own research, to develop ideas begun in the lesson or to bring contributions to another lesson.

Computing
Homework is not formally set in Computing but teachers may at their discretion provide occasional, suitable tasks to enhance classroom learning.

Science
Science does not form a specific part of the school's homework policy, however teachers may wish to encourage children to further their own research, to develop ideas begun in the lesson or to bring contributions to another lesson.

Homework
Homework will be given out on specified days across the year groups. Parents will be informed every term of changes to routines. Homework in Foundation stage may consist of a reading book which will be taken home on a regular basis as well as a list of key words to spell. In Key stage 1 and 2, homework will increase to include reading books, spellings for the week as well as work which will be linked to work in class. Homework will be marked on a regular basis to inform children (and parents) of progress. See homework and marking policies.