

# DISLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

'PROUD TO BELONG'



## HOMEWORK POLICY

Approved by	Head teacher Governors	Date: Feb 2025
Last review	November 2023	
Next review	February 2026	

## **Aims of Policy**

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do
- Ensure consistency across the school
- Ensure opportunities for parents, children and school to work in partnership in relation to children's learning
- Encourage children and their parents to share positive learning experiences
- Reinforce learning covered in class by providing further related learning opportunities
- To practise and rehearse basic skills and knowledge especially in English and Maths
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline to study independently
- To prepare children for the transfer to secondary school

The school actively encourages children to learn further through homework. Each class teacher will establish a homework routine for their class. The tasks set are designed to support learning and to give practice in basic skills.

Examples of homework are:

- Reading / sharing a book with a member of the family – this is particularly important for Infant children
- Reading / for pleasure
- Spellings or tables to learn, usually for a test
- Handwriting practice
- Learning "words" or songs for a performance
- Research for a Topic
- Completing work

We hope that parents/carers will encourage their child(ren) to complete the task and help and support when appropriate. Class teachers are always willing to discuss ways in which parents/carers might help their children.

## **The nature of homework**

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task

5. Homework should be set regularly from Foundation Stage to Y6

### **Recommended time allocation**

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables but there is no recommended guidance on the amount of time a child needs to spend on their homework.

### **Homework tasks**

At Disley Primary School homework tasks from Year 1 are provided within the form of a 'Bingo' board. Pupils may undertake these tasks in any order and record their work within their homework books or complete on their online profile. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development. They will also be flexible enough to cater for a range of needs and enable pupils to develop the activities to reflect their interest, appetite and ability.

In reception, children are encouraged to read their decodable reading books. Children are expected to read their book three times before it is swapped for a new one. Parents/carers need to sign the children's reading journal to indicate this has been completed. This approach to reading continues during Year 1 and 2.

In Year 1, children will be supplied with additional resources to support them in preparation for the phonics screening check in June. These resources will be distributed, as well as the homework bingo boards, near the time of the phonics screening check.

In Year 6, children are supplied with CGP books relating to the core curriculum subject areas in addition to the homework bingo boards. Children will be encouraged and directed to engage with the activities as set out in the CGP books.

### **Role of the class teacher**

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work and/or a message on ClassDojo/Tapestry
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine
- To ensure that homework is set consistently in their class
- To set homework that takes equal opportunities into account and is accessible for all
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks

- To mark homework appropriately, when necessary and give feedback to pupils

#### **The role of the governing body**

- To check compliance of the Policy
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented

#### **The role of parents**

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts their homework
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning

#### **General information**

- Wherever possible, staff should try to mark any homework that is returned by pupils. This will help to give the whole process of setting and completing homework a higher profile and status. It will also send out the message that homework is an important and valued aspect of school life. Marking homework is a way of keeping track of who has completed it, and giving them feedback on how well they have met the objectives. However, marking may be done in a variety of forms, some of which will not be written. Feedback may be given to individual pupils, or to groups of pupils.
- If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work and will therefore only hand it out once they return to school.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. **In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.**
- It is not possible to give additional homework when parents take holidays in term time
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher
- The 'Homework Bingo Board' will outline homework expectations for that half term. No further homework will be provided (unless stated otherwise in this policy) and children will be encouraged and praised to complete as much as they can.