



DRAX COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

September 2016

At Drax Community Primary School we believe that homework can be a valuable activity which offers our children and parents an opportunity to reinforce and enhance the children's learning.

However, we also believe that it should be purposeful and timely.

Homework will include a variety of tasks to encourage and develop children's skills and prepare them for the development independent study skills, which they will need as they progress their educational journey. Parents will be informed of the following policy including what is expected of them. Further information and advice on homework is available from staff.

Whatever the task, Drax Community Primary School hopes that when children receive homework, parents will find some time to work through their child's homework with them. Homework should be considered a learning opportunity and rather than a chore. It is vital that homework is carried out in a situation which will not lead to stress or confrontation. A quiet, calm area is the best place for homework to be carried out. While work should be done in a relaxed atmosphere, it should still be of a high quality. Indeed it should be completed to the same standard as is expected in school. Should parents find that homework is causing frustration due to either too much or too little challenge, then the school welcomes them to contact the class teacher to discuss the work. This can easily be achieved through a note recorded on the homework. **Children are not expected to complete work if it is causing them anxiety.**

All children will be given homework differentiated as appropriate to their needs. Homework may be given throughout the year for one of the following reasons:

- To enhance work already done in class.
 - To give extra practice in the basic English and Maths skills.
 - To discover/research new facts.
 - To prepare children for skills/revision required of them in a test situation.

Homework , will not be given weekly.

Literacy

Pupils will take home a copy of the half termly spellings at the start of each term, which parents are encouraged to help their children practice but these will be taught and practiced in school as it is the application of spellings in written work which is the main purpose.

In Key Stage 2, pupils may also take home key words which have been mis-spelt in independent work to practice.

As appropriate pupils in both Key Stages may take home phonics revision.

All pupils are expected to read at least three times a week to a parent.

Maths

Pupils in Key Stage 2 will receive a Maths Workbook at the start of the year to complete during the year and will be marked in school.

All pupils will take home, during the first term, the national expectations of mathematical knowledge and understanding for their year group and a list of web-sites which pupils can use to practice these.

As a general guide the table on the following page will be applied throughout the school. The English & Maths tasks will be distributed on a Wednesday & collected in on the following Friday to enable quality feedback before the next piece is sent home.

Rationale

Research has shown that it is high levels of communication between children and parents, rather than weekly homework, which has the greatest impact on pupil progress and outcomes. Therefore, Drax Community Primary School encourages its parents instead to do the following:

- Try to eat together as a family around the table
- Read together (not just school books!)
- Read to your child (or listen to an audio book together) – even in Key Stage 2
- Play together outside
- Play board games
- Make sure your child goes to bed early