

Gosforth Park First School

Document Number

GP-PO-017

Document Name

GPFS Homework Policy

Version Number

V 03

Version Control

Document	Version	Date	Author	Change Description
GP-PO-017	03	10/10/2022	Governing Body	Removed Purple Mash
GP-PO-017	03	11/10/2021	Governing Body	Reviewed with changes from SLT
GP-PO-017	03	16/11/2020	Governing Body	Reviewed with changes from SLT
GP-PO-017	02	14/10/2019	Governing Body	Reviewed with changes from SLT
GP-PO-017	01	20/11/2017	Governing Body	Document release in QMS format



Rationale:

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents/carers. Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers encouraging them to learn at home and at school. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners.

We believe that homework is one of the ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

All research evidence shows that that reading for pleasure makes a huge difference to children's educational performance. Children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of the world.

Therefore, daily reading at home is the core focus of homework at our school. This can be either independent reading or reading aloud to parents or carers according to each child's ability.

Reading:

Children in Nursery and Reception will be expected to enjoy a story with their parents/carers every day at home. Children in Reception will also benefit from reading aloud to an adult as much as possible.

Children in KS1 are expected to read aloud to an adult every day at home.

Children in KS2 are expected to read at home on a daily basis, whether this is a school reading book, library book, Oxford Online Reading scheme or book from home. As children become more independent they will read longer novels and library books and the focus will shift from learning to read, to reading to learn. Once children can read accurately in terms of word recognition, greater emphasis should be placed upon fluency and comprehension/inference skills.

Additional Homework Y1-Y4:

English/Maths Homework:

Children in KS1 will be set a weekly phonics and maths activity via SeeSaw (online home learning platform). Children in KS2 will be set a weekly English or Maths activity via Seesaw. These activities will be posted on a Friday to be completed by the following Friday. Teachers will write a feedback comment on each returned piece of homework if it has been completed within the allotted time frame.

Children in KS1 and KS2 will also have access to a range of online resources which can be accessed as required:

- *Mathletics (online maths platform)*
- *Times Table Rock Stars (sequenced programme of daily times table practice)*
- *Oxford Owl Online Reading (eBooks to support reading fluency and comprehension)*



Phonics/English and Maths homework will be used to consolidate learning which has occurred within the classroom.

If you do not understand the methods that the children use, particularly in mathematics, please refer to the calculation policy on the website or speak to the class teacher. Should you require any additional resources please speak to the class teacher.

Topic Homework:

Children in KS1 and KS2 will be assigned a research project to complete during the holidays which relates to the upcoming topic for their key stage. The purpose of this research project is for children to bring a wealth of prior knowledge and enthusiasm to the classroom. All children will be given the opportunity to present their research project to their peers. Prior to the holiday, teachers will provide a selection of ideas for research projects but creative freedom will be given to each child to decide how they would like to represent their ideas (e.g. through story, painting, model, PowerPoint presentation, etc.)

No child will be penalised if they are unable to complete a research project.

Spellings:

Spellings are sent out half termly and consist of 10 age-appropriate spellings to be learnt each week. Spellings will usually follow a spelling rule or be associated with a topic that the children are learning in class. All spellings link to the National Curriculum year group expectations or children's current phonics level. Please ensure that children understand the meaning of the word in a sentence.

- In KS1, spellings are linked to the phonics teaching focus of that week.
- In KS2, spellings are linked to the spelling/grammar teaching focus of that week.

Additionally, Topic related vocabulary and high frequency/tricky words may also be included in spelling lists.

Guidance for pupils:

We ask the children to:

- read carefully to the instructions they are given
- organise themselves in order to make sure that homework is completed on time

Guidance for Parents:

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to:

- encourage their child to complete their homework.
- help their child as they feel necessary
- allow their child a quiet space to work in e.g. away from the television, electronic devices etc. or younger siblings

Should a child be unable to complete their homework for any reason, parents/carers should inform their child's class teacher via an email to the office.



Role of teachers:

Our teaching staff will:

- ensure homework is clearly explained and helpful guides given to parents as appropriate
- ensure that homework is acknowledged via Seesaw and appropriate feedback is given
- monitor the child's approach to homework, completion and support by parents
- ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability and individual needs of the child.

This policy will be reviewed annually based on feedback from parents, pupils and staff.