

Homework Policy



Learning, Caring, Succeeding...together.

Philosophy:

In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard, at Little Common we recognise the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

Aims:

- To help children to make progress and ensure children have the best opportunities to meet and deepen their knowledge and understanding of the expectations for their year group set out in the National Curriculum
- To help parents gain an insight into their child's school work, support in children's learning and promote partnerships between home and school.
- To support children develop their fluency and comprehension skills in reading
- To support children in developing their understanding and recall of known mathematical facts such as time tables, division facts and number bonds
- To practise and consolidate further skills
- To broaden the context of learning and provide enrichment and extension
- To become independent learners and to develop perseverance and positive attitudes to learning beyond the classroom
- To support children in becoming responsible and organised in their learning at home as a preparation for more frequent homework at secondary school

Expectations and Organisation:

Foundation Stage:

- Reading 5 times per week at home with an adult (this may be being read to for some of the year). Recorded daily and rewarded with sticker in assembly once filled a reading record book
- Homework tasks in book

Year 1:

- Reading 5 times per week at home with an adult , recorded daily
 - Phonics task or number task
 - Optional: menu of tasks for the term
- Excellent homework will be displayed in the year group

Year 2

- Reading 5 times per week at home with an adult , recorded daily
 - Spellings
 - Optional: menu of tasks for the term
- Excellent homework will be displayed in the year group

Year 3

- Reading 5 times per week at home (with an adult if necessary), recorded daily by adult or child (initialled once per week by adult if recorded by child)
 - Spellings
 - Learning multiplication tables by heart : 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x,6x, 8x
 - Optional: menu of tasks for the term
- Excellent homework will be displayed in the year group
- Optional: Sumdog

Year 4

- Reading 5 times per week at home, recorded daily by adult or child (initialled once per week by adult if recorded by child)
- Spellings
- Learning multiplication tables by heart
- Optional: menu of tasks for the term
Excellent homework will be displayed in the year group
- Optional: Sumdog

Year 5

- Reading 5 times per week at home, recorded daily by child (initialled once per week by adult). If any child repeatedly does not read at home, they will be asked to attend a catch up session in school.
- Spellings
- Learning multiplication tables by heart
- Optional: menu of tasks for the term
Excellent homework will be displayed in the year group
- Sumdog until January, then one maths workbook task per week

Year 6

- Reading 5 times per week at home, recorded daily by child (initialled once per week by adult). If any child repeatedly does not read at home, they will be asked to attend a catch up session in school.
- Spellings
- Learning multiplication tables by heart
- Optional: menu of tasks for the term
Excellent homework will be displayed in the year group
- Sumdog until January, then one maths workbook task per week

When children have not completed their homework or have forgotten it, they may be required to spend break or lunch times catching up. If this becomes a continual issue, the problem will need to be discussed with parents.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher.

Reading in the holidays:

It is essential for children to maintain good reading habits throughout holiday periods. To encourage this, children who write a book review of a book read over the holiday will have a ticket entered into a draw. This will take place in assembly towards the start of each term. Pupils may increase their chance of winning by entering a review for each book that they read during the holidays. Books should be age and ability appropriate for the child.

Online tasks:

As well as Sumdog, children may be encouraged to undertake further tasks such as accessing the Lexia Core 5 online reading program, Charanga music and tasks set on the school's Learning Environment; all of which can be accessed via the school's website. Where children do not have access to the internet at home, we will endeavour to provide opportunities in school. Please inform the class teacher if this is an issue.

Role of parents:

It is vital that parents display a positive attitude and value the importance of homework. To support the children we would encourage:

- Providing a quiet, calm area for the children to work in
- Help set a regular time for completing activities
- Making the time to read with children and question them even once they have become fluent readers

Pupils with special educational needs

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We aim to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special educational needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Review

Ofsted guidelines advise that schools to set challenging homework, as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come.

At Little Common we review the purpose and impact of homework as part of our on-going evaluation process. Parents are formally provided with the opportunity to give their opinions about homework twice a year at parent consultation evenings.