



# Hawes Primary School Homework Policy

'We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Hawes Primary School, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

## **Aims and objectives**

- To extend school learning and inform parents about work going on in class;
- To further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- To encourage children as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to work on their own, preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.
- To provide homework to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths;
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences;
- To provide an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning as they become older;
- To ensure the needs of the individual children are taken into account;

**Homework will not have to be completed on a daily basis other than reading. Instead, a flexible weekly structure will be implemented to avoid pupil stress. The most important aspect of homework is regular reading activities.**

## **Aims of this policy**

- To set out clearly for all staff and governors our agreed expectations for learning at home;
- To ensure that all pupils and parents/carers have a clear understanding about our expectations.

## **Types of Homework and Time Allocation**

The main focus of homework and home activities throughout the school is on **English and Maths**. As the children move up the school, they are provided with other curriculum areas to research at home while the key focus remains on English and Maths. Older children are encouraged to develop the skills of independence to work on their own to both benefit their learning and prepare them for the demands of homework at secondary school, especially for our Year 5/6 children.

Regular **reading** practice to and with parents is essential if progress is to be made. Alongside this, we would also like to encourage all parents to read to their children as much as possible; research shows that this activity has a significant positive effect on children's learning and vocabulary development. This could also include talk with your child/children about their reading, supporting our focused Oracy work in school.

We would expect the suggested amounts of time to be spent on pupils reading at home, ideally daily, or at least 3 times per week:

Suggested daily timings for homework including topic research, reading, spellings and other set maths or English work.

Reception - 15 minutes

Years 1 and 2 - 10-30 minutes

Years 3 and 4 - 10-40 minutes

Years 5 and 6 - 20-40 minutes

## **Reception**

At this early age the emphasis should be very much upon actively involving the parents in their children's learning. In Reception short activities of different kinds – learning phonics, practising letter formation, number facts – all provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are currently learning at school. **Our main focus is building up their fluency in reading supported by their phonics, which we ask parents to practise at home daily.**

## **Years 1 and 2**

Work to be carried out at home is based on daily reading, phonics practice as required, learning weekly spellings and on other aspects of English, Maths and the wider curriculum. Activities will consolidate or extend their learning based on what they have been learning in school. Our Year 2 children will have extra support for home when preparing for the optional Year 2 SATs

## **Years 3 and 4**

As well as the ongoing encouragement to read daily, homework is based on learning weekly spellings to support English learning, *Maths-Times Table Rockstars* and also some research for other curriculum subjects. Children will also have work on Spelling frame to further consolidate their learning. Activities will consolidate or extend their knowledge based on what they have been learning in school. Where necessary, teachers will give an example or introduction to the work to remind the pupils of the learning they completed in class.

## **Years 5 and 6**

Homework tasks are the same as for Years 3 and 4 in addition to specific activities to encourage and develop independent learning. These activities involve:

- Finding out information
- Maths pieces to consolidate in school learning
- Reading in preparation for lessons
- Written pieces of work
- Book reviews
- Revision in preparation for the Key Stage 2 SATs (Year 6 only).

**Reviewed June 2025**