

# Mount Street Junior School



## HOMEWORK POLICY

**Pupils, parents, staff and governors have contributed to the writing of this policy.**

### **Why we have homework?**

The purpose of homework is:

- To encourage children to develop skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively on their own or with an adult when appropriate
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- To extend school learning into the home environment through partnership with parents.
- To develop and sustain parental involvement in children's learning.
- To keep parents informed about children's work, progress and achievement.
- To utilise a wide range of extra resources for learning at home.

As children progress through the School, the frequency, range and purpose will change. At Mount Street Juniors we will seek to develop the partnership with parents already established at the Infants' School and seek to involve parents more actively in their children's learning. As children develop through school, although parental involvement will continue to be very important and valued, children will be encouraged to work with greater independence and will cover an increasingly wide range of tasks and curriculum content. Homework supports work undertaken in school. It must be relevant to the curriculum taught and will be flexible throughout the academic year.

The main focus of homework and home activities will be literacy and numeracy, although other areas will be added, as and when appropriate.

Homework will not just be used to 'finish off' work started in class. It will include reading, timetables, number activities and spelling; the children may also be required to find out information, to prepare for oral presentations and to undertake written assignments.

The type, frequency and scale of work should be balanced so that it is manageable for both children and staff. Consequences and support for those who do not complete homework to a satisfactory standard should reflect this consistency of approach.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Homework for children with additional educational needs will not just be seen as a way of catching up. Work set will balance the needs of the individual against

the need to carry out a common task. It will be differentiated where possible to reflect children's abilities and aptitudes.

### **Amount of Homework**

Homework may not be set every night, nor for a particular length of time. It is given out in a measured and controlled way. The amount, frequency and duration will be linked to a variety of factors e.g. age of child, demands on the child and teacher from work carried out during the school day, and from events and activities organised throughout the school year. These all affect the setting, studying and marking of homework, underlining the need for a flexible approach, reflecting the needs of the child.

### **Parent's Role**

Variation will occur from home to home, however it is reasonable to expect parents to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place for doing homework,
- Make it clear that they support the School in its Homework Policy and value it,
- To respect deadlines and encourage children to meet them,
- Give praise and encouragement for completion of homework.
- Support the child.

### **Guidelines for Homework**

#### **Specialist Support Centre**

- Parent reads a story/reading book with their child, reading high frequency words from their book mark, every night.
- Spelling – Alpha to Omega words.
- Written work, when appropriate, taken from the learning activities for that week.

#### **Years 3 and 4**

- Reading book to be read aloud to an adult for 10 minutes every night.
- Spelling lists
- Multiplication tables are the basis of all maths learning and it is reasonable to expect that they are practiced on a regular basis at home.

## **Year 5 and 6**

- Reading book, to be read aloud to an adult -15 minutes every night.
- Spelling lists
- Multiplication tables are the basis of all maths learning and it is reasonable to expect that they are practiced on a regular basis at home.
- Language/topic work set regularly, as and when appropriate.

**It should be noted that standards of work should be the same as that expected in school.**

Homework is to be completed on worksheet or in 'Homework Book' and returned to the class teacher.

All homework should be checked and feedback given to pupils and a record kept of outcomes.