

Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Llangatwg

# Llangattock Church in Wales School



## Policy for Homework

**Reviewed: January 2015**

## Objectives of Homework

- To encourage pupils to develop the skills needed for independent learning.
- To consolidate, reinforce and extend the skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the classroom.
- To help inform parents of the work being covered in lessons and to the progress of their son/daughter

## The Setting of Homework

Homework should be set in a clear and organized manner. The schedule for the setting of homework should be given to the parents of all pupils at the beginning of each year in the 'Welcome Newsletter'. If the schedule should change, then the class termly newsletter should inform parents of any changes. This information enhances a parent's ability to support their child's learning via homework.

The effectiveness of homework is considerably enhanced when:

- Homework is planned as an integral part of the lesson. Where room allows, it should be added to the weekly planning to enable a supply teacher to continue the homework schedule. Homework should have clear deadlines set out in the homework schedule.
- Homework must have a clear purpose, and should be linked to current learning or for revision purposes.
- Homework must be set during rather than at the end of the lesson. This enables instructions to be given clearly and for any queries to be dealt with.
- Homework may sometimes need extra information, which should be written down by the pupils, or given in the form of a handout.
- Homework should be set as one piece of work at a time, unless it is holiday homework and more than one piece of homework can be set.

## The Marking of Homework

Homework should be marked in line with the Marking Policy of the School, giving feedback where needed. This feedback is useful to pupils, but it is also useful to parents, enabling them to monitor their child's learning.

Green pen should be used for homework marked by a member of staff.

## Homework Tasks

A variety of tasks are set for homework. Where appropriate tasks should be carefully differentiated to meet the learning needs of pupils but some homework may be common across year groups/classes.

The majority of homework set will follow the schedule as set out in the 'Welcome Newsletter', but on occasions other homework will be set.

In the Nursery/Reception class, homework is based upon the learning of sounds and daily reading.

In Years 1 and 2, again there is a focus on reading, learning tables and number bonds.

Possible tasks for homework might be:-

<b>Investigations</b>	<b>Interviews</b>	<b>Listening Practice or Rehearsal</b>
<b>Research</b>	<b>Public or School Library Visit</b>	<b>Spellings</b>
<b>Reading</b>	<b>Designing</b>	<b>Writing</b>
<b>Drawing</b>	<b>Word Processing</b>	<b>Report writing</b>
<b>Learning</b>	<b>Simple experiment</b>	<b>Model making</b>
<b>Projects or Extended Assignments</b>	<b>Assessments</b>	<b>Preparation for an activity</b>

## The Time to be Spent on Homework Tasks

The maximum time a pupil should spend on a piece of homework should be:

<b>Nursery/Reception</b>	10 minutes for reading and sounds daily
<b>Years 1/2</b>	15 minutes for reading 3 to 4 times a week, 10 minutes on spellings twice a week and 15 minutes for a maths homework activity
<b>Years 3/4</b>	20 minutes reading 3 times a week, 10 minutes on spellings twice weekly and 20 minutes for a maths homework task
<b>Years 5/6</b>	Children are expected to read once a week, 10 minutes on spellings twice weekly and an individual maths homework task should not go beyond 30 minutes

If a pupil is unable to complete a piece of homework in the time given or for another reason, a brief note to that effect can be written in the homework book by the parent to inform the teacher. Sometimes when an extended piece of work is to be done for homework, a number of homework nights should be set aside for this piece of work, and it should not be seen as additional work.

### Parental Support (See Home / School Agreement)

Most pupils will complete their homework at home. Parents are therefore in a position to offer vital support and encouragement in this area. Parents can provide this support and encouragement by:-

- Providing a suitable quiet space in which their son/daughter can work.
- Talking with their son/daughter about their homework, the standards they are achieving and the importance of carrying out homework tasks.
- Checking deadlines and helping their son/daughter manage their time successfully so that these deadlines are met.
- Praising their son/daughter for successful completion of homework.
- Helping to research topics/project work

If a pupil finds a particular piece of work difficult, it is important that the parent does not complete the work themselves, as the teacher is unable to identify if a weakness exists.

Sometimes parents will want to support their child's learning in a particular area of the curriculum, as the pupil feels they may be weak in this area. Teachers should welcome this support where appropriate and provide some extra resources if necessary.

Older children may request to use the Computers in School/ or lunchtimes to complete homework tasks. The year 5/6 teaching area can be used by children completing homework as there is IT access and can be easily supervised due to the proximity of the staffroom.

### **Failure to Meet Deadlines**

Homework must be completed on time, however there are always occasions when due to family circumstances this will not be possible.

If a pupil persistently fails to complete homework then parents should be informed at a parent evening or by letter if the problem continues.

This policy will be reviewed annually with parents and pupils.

Review Date: January 2016