

UPTON SNODSBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL



HOMEWORK POLICY

1. Introduction

"Learning at home is an essential part of the good education to which all our children are entitled. It is not just about reinforcing learning in the classroom, although that is important ... homework helps children to develop skills and attitudes they will need for successful independent lifelong learning."
(The Secretary of State for Education).

Research over a number of years has shown that homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress in school. An OFSTED Report published in 1995 confirmed that many pupils and parents saw work done at home as a valuable and essential part of school work ... also the 1996/97 OFSTED Annual Report noted that homework is important at all stages of education and that when used properly, it extends the challenge open to the pupil ...
(Take from a DFEE letter to schools on Homework)

2. Aims

The setting of homework has the following aims:

- ❖ To consolidate and extend work undertaken in the classroom
- ❖ To create a stronger partnership between parents and teachers in the education of children
- ❖ To help promote the development of good regular study habits, positive attitudes to learning and independence
- ❖ To enable parents to understand the nature of work children are expected to be doing within different levels.

3. Implementation

In order to achieve these aims, homework is set regularly throughout the school, gradually increasing in quantity and complexity as children get older.

Homework constitutes an integral part of curriculum planning, and homework tasks are set by teachers in accordance with their curriculum objectives, the age of the children and the work being undertaken in class. Thus, tasks set are drawn from a range of activities. For children in both Key Stages, homework includes

the learning of spellings, reading and completing a mathematics activity or game. The older children are also encouraged to support their project work through art and craft, research and music practice.

4 Timetable

The Government has recommended one hour each week for Years 1 and 2, one and a half hours each week for Years 3 and 4 and daily reading. The focus of the homework may vary from term to term and parents will receive this information through the curriculum letter at the beginning of each half term.

Example Timetable

Reception: Friday - Mathematics or Phonics
Daily reading

Year 1: Friday - Mathematics and Spelling
Daily reading

Year 2: Monday - Spelling
Friday - Mathematics
Daily reading

Years 3 & 4: Tuesday - Spelling
Wednesday - Project activity when appropriate
Friday - Mathematics
Daily reading

5 Homework Diaries

Homework diaries are the responsibility of the children to record their tasks, when necessary, and to ensure they have their spelling lists.

The results of spelling tests are recorded against the list by the teacher and any incorrect words highlighted, so that children can learn them again.

Parents are asked to sign their child/s homework diary every weekend and are welcome to add comments.

6 Reading Diaries

Each child has a reading diary (which is their responsibility) to record their books and pages they have read at home. These provide a close link with parents and regular comments are invaluable to our teachers.

This policy was approved by the Learning & Teaching Committee in the summer term 2011

The policy will be reviewed annually