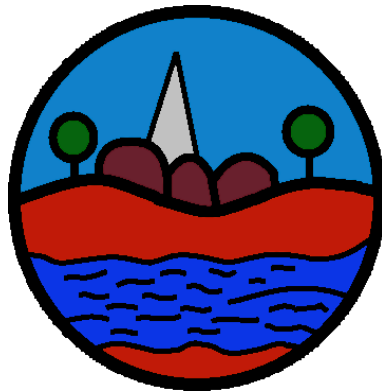


# **Rockcliffe CE Primary School**



## **Homework Policy**

Agreed by Staff and Governors July 2012  
Readopted 2014, 2016

# **Rockcliffe CE Primary School**

## **Homework Policy**

### **Purpose of Homework**

The Government believes that there is enormous advantage in children spending regular periods of time, on different learning activities devised by schools as part of a homework programme which supports the work they do in school. The Government's White Paper "Excellence in Schools" proposed that national guidelines on homework should be published and the publication Homework: Guidelines for Primary and Secondary Schools (1998) was the result. Inspections by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) look at whether homework is used effectively to reinforce and/or extend what is learned in school.

### **Aims**

- Homework should be part of an effective partnership between the school and parents in pursuing the aims of the school.
- Homework should consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, especially in literacy and numeracy.
- Homework should exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home.
- Homework should extend school learning, for example through additional reading and numeracy activities
- Homework should encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

The Governors and staff recognise the need for children to have the time to follow out of school interests and family activities and the attached guidelines and time allocations allow for these important things to take place. This has been particularly important when deciding on the days when homework will be set and collected.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Although it is seen as important that children identified as having special educational needs do as much in common with other children as possible there will be occasions when they may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework set for other children in the class.

### **The Able Child**

It is acknowledged that the able child needs to be given homework that will use their full ability and their homework may differ from that set for the majority of the class.

## **Role of Parents and Carers in Supporting Pupils**

Parents and carers should be encouraged to:

- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which a child can do homework.
- make it clear to their child/ren that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework.

## **Recommended Time Allocation for Homework**

Current recommendations for homework for children in key stage 1 & 2 are given below.

Years R, 1 & 2: 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4: 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes per day (2 ½ hours per week)

## **Homework Guidelines**

### **Year R**

Children in the Foundation Stage are expected to read with an adult on a daily basis, play games related to phonemes, high frequency words and numeracy topics being taught in school. Handwriting homework may also be given.

### **Years 1 and 2**

Children in years 1 and 2 are expected to read with an adult on a daily basis, learn high frequency words and complete tasks which support literacy and numeracy topics being undertaken in school. Handwriting homework may also be given.

### **Years 3 and 4**

Children in years 3 and 4 are expected to read with an adult. A homework diary will be provided and will serve as a record of children's reading. The diary will be monitored by the class teacher and teaching assistants.

In addition children will be given learning tasks relating to spelling rules and multiplication tables. Testing of these two elements may not always take the form of a recall of knowledge test i.e. children's knowledge may be assessed using application of knowledge in written or mathematical work.

Each week children will be given a piece of work in Mathematics, English or one of the foundation subjects. Handwriting homework may also be given.

Homework books will be provided for the children to record their tasks.

## **Year 5 and 6**

As children move into the upper school the purpose of homework changes as children are prepared for the rigours of secondary school homework.

Children are still expected to read on a regular basis, but it is acknowledged that this is likely to be undertaken independently. Children will still be expected to keep a record of what they read to ensure that they cover the necessary variety of genre and such a record can include books from home and public libraries. A homework diary is supplied to all children in years 5 and 6 for this purpose.

Children will be required to learn spelling rules and multiplication facts if it is felt that they are not yet proficient in these. In addition children will be given two additional tasks relating to either core or foundation subjects. Handwriting homework may also be given.

For older children homework activities may include:

- preparing a presentation to the class
- finding out information
- making something
- trying out a simple scientific experiment
- cooking

If a child is absent then a copy of the homework will be put into their tray ready for when they return. It is the child's responsibility to make sure that they get their homework on their return and find another copy if they mislay their copy.

'Holiday Homework' will be seen as an opportunity to provide more extended tasks.