

Ashgrove Primary School

Homework Policy

1 January 2005

VERSION 1:1

Homework Policy

Rationale

In Ashgrove Primary School homework is regarded as an integral part of the learning experience and a natural extension of the work being done in the classroom. It serves to develop a child's sense of responsibility and to indicate to both school and home the level of secure understanding.

Aims and Purposes

- To reinforce and consolidate work undertaken in class.
- To collect data, information or material for future class work.
- To familiarise parents with the nature of class work.
- To enable parents to monitor progress made during the year.

NB Pupils will not be asked to tackle new or unfamiliar written work as homework, but may be required to research new or unfamiliar information.

The Role of Parents

We believe that homework informs parents about what is happening in school and gives them an indication of the level at which their child is performing. The school greatly appreciates the support and interest that parents give. It is a major factor in the success of homework as a learning experience.

To ensure that homework is seen as an important part of the child's education, all parents are requested to check and sign the homework, the reading card and the diary. This does not mean that the teacher expects the work to be corrected. Signing is seen as an indication that the parent is happy with their child's effort.

A rough draft, especially of work to be written in fountain pen, should be prepared. Use of Tippex is not encouraged.

Parents are requested to inform the teacher of any difficulties which the child may have in completing the homework, eg taking too long to do a written exercise. Parents are not expected to teach their child how to do work as methods may vary and lead to confusion.

Members of staff will work in partnership with parents and children to address any difficulty relating to the completion of homeworks on time or to a satisfactory standard.

Parents are asked to back exercise books and textbooks for protection and return them to school in good condition. Unreasonable damage to books may result in parents being asked to contribute to their replacement.

Weekends

Only in exceptional circumstances will homeworks be given at weekends.

Primary One:

Homework may consist of any of the following:

Term 1

Colouring Pre-number Activities
Pre-writing
Pre-reading

Work recognition practice (using **word box**)

Occasional number games to play at home

Commence reading

Term 2

Reading, usually Monday - Thursday (may involve writing out new words)

Other homework will be at the teacher's discretion e.g. bring in articles, photos for class topic work.

Term 3

Reading

Learning of simple number facts

The Primary One homework format may be modified/alterd at any stage where deemed appropriate.

Primary Two:

Term 1

Monday: simple written maths worksheet

Wednesday: written English worksheet and alphabet homework on alternate weeks

Term 2

As above: written homework, 3 spellings and 3 tables every night

Term 3

As above

All work should be set out as shown by the teacher and signed by the child's parents.

Primary Three:

Term 1

Reading	Monday to Thursday
Spellings	3 - 6 according to child's ability on Monday to Wednesday revision on Thursday for test on Friday
Tables	given nightly, number depending on difficulty and child's ability revision on Thursday for test on Friday Additional number facts will be given at intervals to reinforce a thorough learning of tables.
Written homeworks	These will commence after Christmas, two per week on Monday and Wednesday - these will be based on English, Mathematics or class topic work.

Term 2

As for term 1

Term 3

The number of spellings may increase.

All work should be set out as shown by the teacher and signed by the child's parents.

It is advised that, when written homeworks are first introduced in Primary 3, children are closely supervised. Primary 3 teachers will detail expectations of work presentation. Should children find homeworks over-taxing then parental consultation with the class teacher is essential.

Primary Four:

P4 homework follows the same pattern for the three terms:

Reading	twice a week
Spellings	12 per night at start of year from Schonell Reading list, group 1. 6 per night later in year, from group 2 with two topic words each night. Revision of the week's spellings will be done on Thursday night.
Tables	Monday to Wednesday nights, with revision on Thursday night. The number to be learned depends on the difficulty of the number facts.
Written work	3 per week on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday - usually 6 Maths questions or 6 English questions. Thursday's homework can be a finding out activity to obtain information for class topic or other classwork.

All work should be set out as shown by the teacher and signed by the child's parents.

Primary Five:

Spellings	Schonell spelling list Monday – Tuesday
	Topic related words – Wednesday
	Revision on Thursday
Tables	Monday – Wednesday
	Revision on Thursday
Reading Skills	Tuesday and one other night
Reading	Every night 20 minutes maximum
Written	Monday – English
	Tuesday - English/Maths - depending on need for follow up class work
	Wednesday - Maths
Learning/Research	Thursday - various subjects
Time	Three-quarters of an hour - an hour
Presentation	Terms 1 and 2 pencil
	Term 3 ink - fibre tipped, roller ball or fountain pen (English)
	(Some children may still use pencil in Term 3.)

All work should be set out as shown by the teacher and signed by the child's parents.

Primary Six:

Spellings	Schonell spelling list - Monday and Wednesday	
	Topic related words on Tuesday - to include meanings of spellings	
	Revision on Thursday	
Tables or Mental Arithmetic	Monday - Thursday	
Reading	Monday - Thursday	
Written	Monday	English
	Tuesday	Reading skills exercise
	Wednesday	Maths
Learning/Research	Thursday - Grammar rules	
	Newspaper reports (group work)	
Time	One hour	
Preparation for P.7 Transfer	During summer term, this will include weekend work.	
	Summer holidays: P.7 transfer work will also be set.	
Presentation	English	pencil - first few weeks roller ball/fountain pen
	Maths	pencil

All work should be set out as shown by the teacher and signed by the child's parents.

Primary Seven:

Spellings	Schonell spelling list and/or transfer procedure related words and/or topic related words (Monday – Wednesday) Revision (Thursday)
Tables or Mental Arithmetic	(Monday – Thursday)
Reading and Reading Skills	Tuesday is reading night but some part of each night's homework will involve reading skills.
Written	Transfer Procedure work from September to November Pupils will have a variety of written and learning homeworks each night. Some homeworks will also be set over weekends. Pupils opting out of Transfer Tests will not be expected to do homeworks specifically geared to the tests. Alternative homework will be set. Written English or Maths following the test
Learning/Research	Thursday - wide variety of subjects
Time	One - one and a half hours
Presentation	All written homework is to be done in ink e.g. fibre tipped, roller ball, fountain pen (not biro). Mathematics should be done in pencil.

All work should be set out as shown by the teacher and signed by the child's parents.