

# Moss Valley Primary



## Homework Policy

<b>Effective</b>	<b>Spring 2022</b>
<b>Review Date</b>	<b>Spring 2024</b>
<b>Designated Governor</b>	<b>Angela Hughes</b>
<b>Signature</b>	

### **Home-school co-operation**

We place great value on independent work completed out of school. It develops good habits and prepares children for the next stages of their education and the workplace. We also recognise that children work very hard during their time in school and that everybody needs to relax at the end of a busy day. It is not our intention to overburden children with additional work.

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

Research shows that where purposeful homework is provided and there is a positive and active partnership between home and school, pupils' attainment is improved.

Homework offers a useful opportunity for children to develop skills independently, working at their own pace and level of attainment.

By providing tasks which complement school work and take account of individual ability, teachers can help children to make quicker progress and to achieve better results.

### **What is the purpose of homework?**

Homework has several purposes and may vary according to the age of the child and the task in hand. At Moss Valley Primary Academy it is our intention during the course of a child's time with us is to provide opportunities to:

- practise and consolidate skills introduced in class
- prepare for future class work
- develop skills using a range of learning resources e.g. library, information books, internet
- allow individuals the opportunity to practice planning and organising their time
- develop good habits and self-discipline which will prepare them for their next phase of education and beyond.
- develop personal responsibility for independent learning
- communicate with parents about their child's learning
- allow parents to become involved in their child's learning
- strengthen links between home and school
- foster an enjoyment of learning

### **What can I expect for my child?**

#### **Reading**

For Reception and Key Stage 1 children, reading regularly and often is an important part of early reading development. We ask that the children read at home every day. This may involve reading to, or discussing and sharing a book with, your child. We ask that Key Stage 2 children read every day too to continue developing their comprehension knowledge.

Older children may read independently, but parents can be involved by asking about the book, who the characters are and whether your child is enjoying it etc. The school provides reading record booklets for parents/carers to record when they read with their child. Teachers keep a record in class of how many times a pupil reads each week. The minimum expectation is that children read 5 times a week. If children are not reading enough teachers speak to the parents first, then a letter is sent home and then the Phase leader speaks to the parent to see if there are any problems that school can help with.

### **What will teachers do?**

- Discuss any problems with the child (or parent, if appropriate) as they arise
- Keep to agreed days and times for setting and collecting work
- Give work which allows children to reinforce, improve or extend learning

- Provide tasks which are matched to a child's ability
- Vary the tasks to make the work more stimulating and enjoyable
- Explain clearly the purpose of the task and how to complete it
- Give children constructive feedback regarding the quality and attainment of completed tasks
- Encourage all children through praise and recognition of individual efforts
- Follow the feedback policy with regards to homework - *Homework will be acknowledged on a regular basis with spellings of key words for the year group being picked up on as well as mathematical errors. Ticks and stickers can be used in homework books to give praise.*

### **How can parents help?**

- Support the homework policy by working in partnership with your child and their teacher
- Ensure work is received from/returned to school
- Get your child settled in a suitable place to work away from distractions and at an appropriate time of day
- Provide your child with pencils, rulers, rubbers etc.
- Encourage your child to complete the work neatly, to the best of his/her ability oversee work and check that it is completed (but don't do it for them!)
- Support with spellings/times tables
- Read instructions to your child where necessary
- Encourage your child to use the public library and ICT (if available)

### **Homework in the classes**

#### **Nursery**

- Books are sent home to share with Parents/Carers with the expectation that children will be read to each night. Sometimes children will be asked to draw pictures about the book they are sharing.
- A Seesaw activity is set each Friday, consisting of either a practical task linked to the theme or a verbal communication task where children and parents are required to discuss a particular question – this could be linked to one a 'question of the day'. Parents are asked to upload photos of their children completing the activity or return the child's homework on paper for each Wednesday- dependent on the task. We offer a paper exercise for parents who are unable engage with the electronic learning journal.

#### **Reception**

- The children start with a picture book and question prompts will be given to support.
- Phonics sounds will be given each week depending on what sounds they have learnt.
- Parents are asked to read with their children at least 5 times per week and sign the reading records.
- Key words will be given for parents to learn with their children at home.
- A Seesaw activity is set each Friday, consisting of either a practical task linked to the theme or a verbal communication task where children and parents are required to discuss a particular question. Parents are asked to upload photos of their children completing the activity or return the child's homework on paper for each Wednesday- dependent on the task. We offer a paper exercise for parents who are unable engage with the electronic learning journal.

### **Years 1 and 2**

- Read 5 times a week and bring their reading book into school on their reading day.
- Weekly spellings followed by a spelling quiz in class.
- Reading Wise
- Play TTRockstars once a week.
- A weekly Seesaw task relating to any area of the curriculum as a pre or post teaching activity. For example, an activity relating to learning in Arts, Humanities, R.E, Spanish, Science and Wellbeing. The tasks will vary each week.

### **Year 3 and 4**

- Read 5 times a week and bring their reading book into school on their reading day.
- Weekly spellings followed by a spelling quiz in class.
- Reading Wise
- Play TTRockstars twice a week.
- A weekly Seesaw task relating to any area of the curriculum as a pre or post teaching activity. For example, an activity relating to learning in Arts, Humanities, R.E, Spanish, Science and Wellbeing. The tasks will vary each week.

### **Year 5 and 6**

- Read 5 times a week and bring their reading book into school on their reading day.
- Weekly spellings followed by a spelling quiz in class.
- Reading Wise
- Play TTRockstars twice a week.
- A weekly Seesaw task relating to any area of the curriculum as a pre or post teaching activity. For example, an activity relating to learning in Arts, Humanities, R.E, Spanish, Science and Wellbeing. The tasks will vary each week.

In addition to this, Year 6 will have revision towards their SATs from January to May so extra revision will be sent home in relation to this.

Teachers may set homework to be completed over the holidays. This mostly consists of research to allow children to prepare for forthcoming unit of work in a particular subject in class.

### **Further Information**

- Children who complete their homework to a good standard will be praised and rewarded as part of the school and class reward systems.
- Children who do not complete work on time or to a reasonable standard will be offered the opportunity to do it the next night. If a child repeatedly fails to complete work then they may be asked to complete it during break time. If this continues then a consultation between the parents and teacher will be arranged to discuss any problems. If problems continue to persist they should be referred to the head teacher for further discussion.

***Our homework policy will be reviewed bi-annually and amended if necessary.***

