

HOMEWORK POLICY

Approved by Full Governors Summer 2021
To be reviewed on or before Summer 2024
Signed......Chair of Governors
Signed.....Headteacher

ECCLESTON LANE ENDS PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework is seen as part of our school aims and complements the work carried out during the school day.

School Aims

Our aims are that:-

- Each member of our community will develop the confidence to reach his/her full potential in a secure, happy, challenging and rewarding environment so that each is equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills and understanding in order to fulfil his/her hopes and aspirations for the future.
- All members will show respect for their community and ALL others within it.

We will achieve these aims by:-

- promoting positive attitudes such as courtesy, honesty, responsibility, kindness and respect for others; encouraging people to set a good example and be good role models in everything they do
- celebrating our successes
- providing a stimulating learning environment and supporting each other in all we
 do
- constantly striving for high standards
- providing an environment in which everyone feels secure and is encouraged to be confident
- promoting teamwork and ensuring that all are given opportunities to contribute and that all contributions are valued; continually looking for ways in which to raise self-esteem
- promoting key skills such as communication, problem-solving, self-evaluation and the use of ICT
- ensuring that an effective partnership exists between home, school and the wider community
- dealing with environmental issues that may have an increasing impact on our lives in the future and accepting our share of the responsibility for protecting our planet for future generations

Roles and Responsibilities

The class teacher has the responsibility for setting appropriate homework for pupils in his/her class. Parents have the responsibility for ensuring homework is completed and handed in on time. Pupils have the responsibility of engaging in homework activities. Governors are responsible for the implementation of the policy.

References to Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy
- Computing Policy

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At Eccleston Lane Ends, homework activities are an important part of our home/school partnership and all children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

Our homework policy is designed to:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work in partnership and to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Consolidate and reinforce basic skills and knowledge, especially in English and Maths.
- Provide opportunities as children get older to develop skills of independent learning.

Homework will be set and should be completed and returned weekly.

As a guide:

Reception:

Activities may consist of:

- Topic based 'Activity Bags' which contain games and other fun activities on a specific theme, these will be on a two-week rotation.
- Reading free-choice readers and word-less books will be given out to share, these will then progress to phonic-based readers and short 'ditty' passages.
- Number and Phonic activities to reinforce learning that has taken place in class

Year 1 and 2:

- Children are expected to read at home daily (minimum expectation);
- Spellings are expected to be practised every week;
- Maths (including the learning of times tables in Y2) and English activities will be set via Seesaw where appropriate.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6:

- Children are expected to read at home daily (minimum expectation);
- Spellings are expected to be practised every week;
- Additional English and Maths tasks (including the recall of times tables and number facts) will be set when appropriate on Seesaw;
- Active homework activities may also be set to support children's physical and mental wellbeing.

Apps & Websites

We have purchased access to a number of different apps & websites which we feel will benefit children's learning in school and help to support learning being done at home. These include Prodigy Maths, Times Table Rockstars and Reading Plus amongst others. In order to keep the focus on these digital applications both manageable and novel we will have a dedicated focus on a different app/website each half term. Use of these will be rewarded through our in-school reward system and where appropriate certificates and stickers.

Teachers at Eccleston Lane Ends will take into account current class/school themes; children's learning activities in school; opportunities for learning outside school; appropriate skills which may require practise and the age of children they teach. Teachers will also want to consider children's commitment to their many and varied out of school activities and hobbies which we regard as valuable learning experiences.

At Eccleston Lane Ends pupils will benefit from homework that is done to an appropriate standard and handed in on time by being rewarded through the school or class reward systems. We will also 'Tweet' and celebrate examples of great homework being completed by our children.

The recommended amount of time to be spent on homework weekly is as follows:-

YEAR GROUP	TIME SPENT WEEKLY
Reception	Up to an hour per week *
Year 1 and Year 2	45 minutes per week *
Year 3 and Year 4	One hour per week (less in Year 3 Autumn
	Term)*
Year 5 and Year 6	Thirty minutes per day
*Daily reading is not included in this allocation	
*Some children enjoy extended learning opportunities and thrive on doing even	
more than the time allocations!	

When and how to do homework will vary from child to child and from family to family. When children are young they will need lots of adult support with their work at home. As children get older we want to encourage them to be independent learners and concentrate on their own on tasks for longer periods of time. Parents can help this by making sure the home environment is well equipped for homework for example by providing quiet times and suitable spaces as well as all the equipment they will need.

Our families tell us that there are different approaches to homework in our school community. Families should choose an approach that best suits them but ensures that deadlines are met. Parents may be reminded via a text message if their child has been unable to complete their homework on a number of occasions.

Look at the recommended time for homework weekly. You could choose to complete this in a number of ways:

- All at once, possibly at the weekend with additional reading daily.
- A little each evening before tea/after tea/before bed.
- Some families are early risers and prefer to do homework then!

Putting in place a visual timetable that parents have negotiated with their child is a great way of ensuring homework becomes part of routine life. It is entirely up to you how you do it BUT...TIME SPENT READING, PREFERABLY DAILY IS A MUST PLEASE!