

# DORRINGTON ACADEMY



“TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER”

## HOMework POLICY

Approved by the Chair of Governors

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

This Policy will be reviewed October 2023

# Homework at Dorrington

## Introduction

Homework is viewed as an extension of learning, an opportunity to share the day's learning with friends and reinforce the learning outcomes for the children. To this end, the school's policy encourages regular setting of homework tasks at all ages, thus helping the children and parents to view learning as a shared activity, not simply something which occurs within the school day.

## Rationale for Homework

Tasks are set according to the needs of each child. Some will be short, focused tasks while others will be of an extended nature. Our aim is to use homework strategies to extend from one day's lesson into the next and to help the children take responsibility for their own learning when undertaking research tasks. Regular practice of reading, spellings and times tables is essential and other tasks in Literacy, Numeracy and Science will be given as deemed suitable. Extended research tasks or projects may be given over a weekend or during a half term break when children will have the time to visit libraries and follow up other courses of learning.

As the children approach the time for national tests in Year Two and Year Six, extra tasks may be set in order to ensure that they have the best opportunity for success. Before school SATs boosters are organised for pupils in Year Two and Six, with staff making themselves available for extra sessions with those children who volunteer to do extra work.

The purpose behind all homework tasks is to enable children to gain the most from their education and to develop a real working partnership between home and school. **Marking may take place with the children in school as their homework is directly linked to their ongoing lessons.** Although the book may not appear to have been marked, each child's work is considered and shared in a class situation. There are also occasions when children are involved in 'peer marking' which involves reading each other's work and sharing ideas from it.

## **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to develop the home-school partnership
- to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding
- to extend school learning

Time limits for homework are as follows:

### **Foundation Stage**

- Requirements will increase as your child progresses through the year. Your child's teacher will keep you informed of any changes.

### **Key Stage One**

- One hour per week - plus 10 minutes per night on reading/spelling.

### **Key Stage Two**

- Y3 and Y4 - 20 minutes per night - plus 15 minutes per night on reading/tables.
- Y5 - 30 minutes - plus 15 minutes per night on reading/tables.
- Y6 - 45 minutes - plus 15 minutes per night on reading/tables.

## **Thursday will be NO homework day!**

Children should be heard reading aloud as often as practically possible.

Reading diaries should be signed every evening.

Homework will be marked in a variety of ways depending on the task. Very often, pupils will be asked to verbalise and share their homework with the class the following day, as homework will be set to check, consolidate and extend children's understanding of current learning objectives, so it is very important that tasks set are completed on time and returned to school.

## **The Role of Parents**

Parents have a vital role to play in their children's education and homework is an important part of this process. If Dorrington Academy is to continue to raise standards for your child, we must work together in partnership.

Without doubt you, as parents, are crucial in your child's education. If we acknowledge the importance of homework in your child's educational development, then your support as a parent is vital in ensuring that your child's learning is extended successfully. We invite you to help your child by providing a

good working space at home, by enabling your child to visit the library regularly and by discussing the work your child is doing.

If you have any problems or questions about homework, you should, in the first instance, contact your child's class teachers. If your questions are of a more general nature, then please contact the Leadership Team.

### **Types of Homework**

**Homework in the Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception)** may consist of some or all of the following: **See Appendix I**

**Homework in Key Stage One (Years 1 & 2)** may include some or all of the following:

- reading aloud to an adult
- learning spellings, letters, sounds
- practising number bonds and tables
- writing task (story/poem/letter/sentences etc.)
- playing a maths game or carrying out a simple number investigation
- using the internet or home computer programs to develop learning and understanding
- science linked activities
- Design and Technology/Art work

*Other activities may also be set.*

**\*Y2 children will be set some specific tasks in preparation for their SATs.**

**Homework for Key Stage Two (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)** may include some or all of the following:

- reading silently or aloud to an adult
- learning spellings
- practising tables at speed
- independent research using a variety of sources i.e. books, interviews, internet
- writing stories
- practising grammatical concepts
- carrying out specific and mathematical investigations
- extended research tasks
- Design Technology/Art work

*Other activities may also be set.*

**\*Y6 children will be set some specific tasks in preparation for their SATs.**

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The Leadership team will continually monitor the quality of provision.

The school will review this policy regularly and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

Ratified by the Governing Body

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chair of the Governors)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**This policy will be reviewed October 2023**