



**SHERBORNE HOUSE
SCHOOL**

Homework Policy

This policy applies to all pupils in the school, including EYFS

Created	July 2015
Revised	December 2016
Date for revision	July 2017

SHS Homework policy

1. Aims

At Sherborne House School, we aim to:

- ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do
- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment
- improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment
- provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning
- encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences
- reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning
- practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy
- encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently
- to prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

2. The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

- The nature and type of homework will change throughout a pupil's school career
- The amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older, but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child
- Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task
- Homework should be set regularly from the EYFS to Year 6.

3. Role of the Teacher

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, to parents and give guidance regarding how they might assist their child
- To ensure that children in KS2 record each homework task and the expected date for its completion in their homework diaries
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across the year group
- To set homework that takes into account equal opportunities
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks
- To mark homework and give feedback to pupils.

4. Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts each piece of homework
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities
- To make it clear that, as parents, they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

At Sherborne House School, we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved, as long as the child remains in control of the task. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's Form Tutor.

5. Role of the Head Teacher and Governing Body

- To check that the policy is compliant
- To meet and talk with parents, when appropriate
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

6. Recommended Subjects and Time Allocation

Homework should never be too onerous, nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns, they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, in recognition of the need to balance school work and home activities such as clubs and coaching sessions.

The following are recommended as appropriate time allocations for homework activities:

Pre-reception – only when the children begin to have reading books are they expected to read – about 10 minutes.

Year R – 10 minutes spent on reading/keywords. Weekly spellings start in the Spring Term – 5 minutes per day.

Years 1 and 2 - Daily reading, spellings and times table practice – 15 minutes. Weekend homework consisting of a maths and English task – 20 minutes.

Years 3 - 6 – One task each for maths, English, science and spellings each week, plus other subjects on a rota basis. N.B. Additional tasks, such as reasoning, may be set for Year 6 pupils during the preparation period leading-up to Senior School entry exams

Year 3 - 30 minutes per night

Year 4 – 40 minutes per night

Year 5 – 50 minutes per night

Year 6 – 60 minutes per night

If a child has worked consistently for the above amount of time and has not completed a task, then they should stop and the parents write a note and sign the homework at the bottom. A child will not

be penalised for this, as it helps the teacher who set the work to ensure that future homework tasks are appropriate to individual children's needs.

7. Homework Tasks

Pupils in EYFS and KS1 are given a Reading Record in which to record their reading at home and in school. Pupils in KS2 are given a Homework Diary in which to record their homework tasks and expected dates of completion. Both of these record books include space for comments from teachers and parents, and form the basis of home-school liaison for homework tasks. Parents who have any queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to the child's Form Tutor. Form Tutors, or specialist staff as appropriate, will carefully monitor the return of homework.

- If children are absent due to illness, we will not send homework home, as the child clearly needs to be able to recuperate.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.
- It is not possible to give homework when children are absent for holidays in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.

8. Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, disability, ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. We plan work that is differentiated for the performance of all groups and individuals. Sherborne House School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.