



Homework Policy

The Purpose of Homework

We set homework because we believe it is a way of supporting and reinforcing the learning pupils undertake in our school. It also supports our school aims of fostering a positive attitude towards learning and developing high level study skills. We believe that through completing homework children will be better prepared for their next stage of schooling.

The Key Principles of homework at Holmer Green Junior School

All homework activities follow the principles outlined below:

- There is a strong connection between homework and class work.
- Homework is matched to the needs of the pupils to ensure that all abilities are able to participate successfully.
- Parents play a crucial role in supporting homework and are made fully aware of our expectations in terms of the activity, the deadline and the standard of work.
- Teachers monitor, mark and give pupils feedback about the quality of their work.
- Our expectation of the type and amount of homework set differs according to the pupil's age (see Appendix A).

Types of Homework

Homework activities may take any of the following forms:

- Reading with or to an adult, focussing on comprehension and vocabulary development
- Spelling practice (see Appendix B)
- Times tables practice
- Tasks focusing on Literacy or Numeracy skills
- Preparation for lessons
- Oral presentations, including poetry recitals
- Personal research about particular topics

In addition to the above, children are encouraged to practise skills and develop independent learning habits by using educational websites the school has signed up for.

Completion of homework

All homework is set online on Seesaw on **Fridays**. Children complete their homework using the templates provided on the site or in books before taking a photo of their work and uploading it. Paper copies can be provided where requested. Children must complete and upload their homework by the deadline of the following **Tuesday**.

Teachers mark homework directly onto Seesaw giving the children individual feedback before the next homework is set. Any additional work posted will be read and acknowledged by the teacher.

Reading homework is evidenced through daily annotation in planners by parents and children. A photograph of the current week is uploaded to Seesaw by the child during their Computing session once a week (see timetable) so that teachers can give individual feedback about their reading habits.

Homework club

Where teachers, parents or children feel that extra support is required with homework, children are given the opportunity to attend a weekly homework club after school until 4.25pm. They have access to computers and other school resources to support successful completion of homework.

Date: September 2021

Review date: September 2022

APPENDIX A
A Guide to Homework Timing

YEAR GROUP	HOMEWORK
Year 3	<p>Reading 10 – 15 minutes per night. At least one reading session will be to an adult. Children encouraged to record own reading with planners signed by an adult</p> <p>Regular spelling and mental maths/tables practice (at least 4-5 times a week)</p> <p>1 x 30 minute activity per week: English or mathematical focus, occasionally cross-curricular</p> <p>Additional personal research is encouraged</p>
Year 4	<p>Reading 10 – 15 minutes per night. At least one reading session will be to an adult. Children encouraged to record own reading with planners signed by an adult</p> <p>Regular spelling and mental maths/tables practice (at least 4-5 times a week)</p> <p>1 x 30 minute activity per week: English or mathematical focus, occasionally cross-curricular</p> <p>Additional personal research is encouraged</p>
Year 5	<p>Reading 15 – 20 minutes per night. At least one reading session will be to an adult. Children encouraged to record own reading with planners signed by an adult</p> <p>Regular spelling and mental maths/tables practice (at least 4-5 times a week)</p> <p>2 x 30 minute activity per week: English AND mathematical focus, occasionally cross-curricular</p> <p>Additional personal research is encouraged</p>
Year 6	<p>Reading 15 – 20 minutes per night. At least one reading session will be to an adult. Children encouraged to record own reading with planners signed by an adult</p> <p>Regular spelling and mental maths/tables practice (at least 4-5 times a week)</p> <p>2 x 30 minute activity per week: English AND mathematical focus, occasionally cross-curricular</p> <p>Additional personal research is encouraged</p>

NB – If pupils are chosen to attend intervention groups, staff will work together to decide on the relevant homework.

APPENDIX B

Spelling practice

Children are set 8 weekly spellings to practise at home. These are tested in school on a Friday.

Spellings lists comprise of:

- 5 spellings which contain spelling patterns from the National Curriculum statutory lists
- 3 spellings taken from the National Curriculum statutory word-lists ('tricky words')

Two compulsory spelling tasks are set for each year group:

Task 1: rote practice of spellings. Children are asked to write down their spellings at least 4-5 times per week using a variety of methods such as Look Say Cover Write Check, Rainbow writing or Pyramid words.

Task 2: words in context. Children are asked to complete an activity which gives them more practice of their spellings but in a context. E.g., inserting words into a paragraph with missing spaces or writing sentences containing their spelling words.

Spelling practice should be an independent activity, but parents are encouraged to check their children's progress so that they are fully prepared to take their test at the end of the week.