

# Rakegate Primary School



## Homework Policy

## **Introduction**

Rakegate Primary School is a happy, caring, community school which enables all children to develop their full potential academically, socially, spiritually and morally in a safe environment.

At Rakegate Primary School, we believe that homework plays an important part in a child's education. The benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that children have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to making homework well balanced across the school.

This Homework Policy was developed in consultation with staff members, parents, pupils and with the full agreement of the Governing Body.

## **Aims**

Rakegate Primary School's Homework Policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework.
- Ensure that parents have clarity on what their child is expected to do.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning and to keep them informed about the work their child is covering.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experiences by extending it beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practice and deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

## **Responsibilities**

### **Role of the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Governing Body**

- Frequently check compliance of the policy.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the policy every year.
- Review the policy regularly and make appropriate updates as required.
- Discuss with staff how far the Policy is being implemented.
- Monitor the completion of homework.
- Support parents/carers with information about homework.
- Inform new parents/carers about the Homework Policy.
- Communicate with parents/carers if there is a problem regarding homework.

### **Role of the Teacher**

- Plan and set up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Provide an explanation of homework tasks and ensure all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensure all homework given is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Set homework that is appropriate to the child's ability.
- Monitor homework regularly and make sure pupils are completing it.
- Mark homework and give feedback to pupils.
- Communicate with parents/carers if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Be available for discussion if necessary to parents/carers and pupils about homework.
- Set homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensure homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Reward quality work and praise children who regularly complete homework.

### **Role of Parents/Carers**

- Support their child in completing homework.
- Become involved in their child's homework and encourage their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Make sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Provide suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Praise their child and celebrate achievements with regard to their homework.
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operate with the school to find a solution.
- Keep the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and homework.
- Encourage your child to discuss homework with you, including feedback from teachers.

### **Role of Pupils**

- Take responsibility for their own learning and submit completed work in a timely manner.
- Have a positive approach towards homework.
- Put the same effort into homework as would be expected of class work.
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seek clarification if required.
- Ensure that they have everything they need to complete homework and return to school all books/stationery needed to complete their homework.
- Take pride in the presentation and content of their homework and perform to a high personal standard.

### **Homework Tasks – Current practice**

- Children will be informed of what is expected of them with regard to homework.
- Every term, the year group Curriculum Information Sheet will inform parents/carers about the main topics and units of work being covered.
- Children have a home reader sent home. The expectation is that they read at home at least three times and a record of this is kept on the BoomReader App.
- In Nursery, we may sometimes ask children to bring in items from home or explore topics in their home environments. This will then become part of group discussions and will be linked to the current topic and developing interests.
- In Reception, parents will receive a weekly newsletter which will include any homework tasks to complete with your child(ren) linked to their learning that week.
- In Year 1, spelling homework will be linked to RWI sounds, weekly spelling lists will be sent home every half term.
- In Years 2 – 6, spelling homework will be set weekly on EdShed (spelling shed) for children to practise.
- In Years 1- 6, homework will be sent home half termly. This will be in the form of a table of 3 star ranked tasks for English, maths and topic/science. The tasks are ranked accordingly, from 1 star being the easiest level to 3 stars being the hardest. Children can choose which level they wish to complete. Children can complete as many tasks as they wish but the minimum expectations is that they complete at least one English task, one maths task and one topic/science task. Children will be given a homework book to complete the task or they may wish to email to school, depending on the format in which they complete it. Approximately 4 weeks will be given to complete the homework, which will then be marked ready to send out the next half term tasks.
- During the Spring and Summer Term, Year 6 will have revision homework set to prepare them for their SATs.
- Teachers may occasionally set extra homework for the whole class if they feel it would be beneficial.
- Children will be praised for completing homework to a high standard.
- Timetable Rock stars is available for home use.
- Children in Years 1 – 6 will have the opportunity to attend a homework club one lunchtime per week if they require support or additional resources to complete any of their tasks.

### **Pupils who fail to complete homework**

- All pupils are expected to complete homework on time. Teachers will keep records of pupils completing homework which will be regularly checked. If pupils fail to complete homework, teachers, phase leaders, the Deputy Headteacher or Headteacher will contact parents/carers to find out why.

### **Pupils with SEND**

- The school recognises that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may require that specific tasks be set in the form of Individual Education Plans.

- While pupils with SEND may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework received from other pupils, it is important that they also do as much in common with other pupils.
- A balanced amount of the right type of homework will be set for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the parents/carers and SEND Co-ordinator.

### **Equal Opportunities**

At Rakegate Primary School, governors and staff members are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background. All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

This policy is reviewed every 3 years, although it may be amended as necessary before this time.

Approved:

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Headteacher