



FLASH LEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

HOMEWORK POLICY

Produced by: Mrs. K. Fenton- Deputy Head Teacher – September 2019

Approved by: _____

To be reviewed: September 2020

What are the aims of this policy?

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

What is the purpose of homework?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding in a range of subjects.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners, encouraging them to develop resilience and self-discipline needed to study on their own.
- Exploit resources for learning that may not be available in school.

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.
- To provide support for children with the completion of PACT Projects where home support is unavailable.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the individual needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.

What is the role of the parent / carer?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

Homework in Nursery and Reception

Learning together is the emphasis for children in Nursery and Reception. The activities are based with a strong emphasis on learning through enjoyment. It is an ideal time to lay the foundations for continuing work at home.

<p>How much time should be spent on homework?</p>	<p>Nursery To enjoy stories, practise number rhymes and letter formation at home will depend on the child's stage of learning.</p>	<p>Reception Share a home reading book 4 times a week (2 are sent home weekly) and share library book. Complete weekly challenge in home learning log.</p>
---	---	---

What type of work will my child get?

➤ **Reading**

Starting in the autumn term and continuing all year, the main emphasis is on reading at home. This should be done in two ways:-

1. Adults reading to children.

Parents are encouraged to use the Library boxes in the sharing shed. These boxes contain books that are suitable to read to children, so they can get used to print and stories. Parents should encourage children to point to words as they are being read. Discussion about the books is also important.

2. Children reading to an adult.

When they are ready to, children will start bringing books home to read to an adult. Again, encouraging the child to point to the words as they are being read is important. Discussing the story and the characters and asking questions about the book will help with the child's understanding of language.

➤ **Letter formation.**

At the beginning of the child's first term in Reception, the class teacher will provide parents with a sheet to support children with letter formation. This shows where to start and finish when forming each letter and what each letter should look like. Giving children the opportunity to practise forming letters and also developing drawing skills with a variety of different tools will give them valuable practice. The important thing is to watch them and correct any mistakes sensitively, so they don't fall into bad habits.

➤ **Number formation and counting.**

To encourage recognition on numbers and the counting system encourage counting at every given opportunity. Counting nursery rhymes are a fantastic way to introduce Nursery children to the concept of counting and through enjoyment the learning of numbers can be developed. Reception children should be learning to recognise the numbers and count forwards and backwards to 20. This should then be extended to writing numbers to 20.

Homework in Key Stage1

For children in Key Stage One, we encourage parents to work together with their child to support them with their homework. The emphasis remains on reading, spellings and basic maths skills, but a creative project will be given to link to topics happening in school.

How much time should be spent on homework?	Reading 10 minutes reading, 4x per week minimum	Spelling or Phonics 5 minutes, 4x a week	Maths Task or Times tables 5 minutes, 4x a week	Creative Project A half term is given to complete the project and will be shared during an open afternoon with parents
---	---	--	---	--

What type of work will my child get?

➤ **Reading**

Reading on a regular basis is vital when children are in year one and two. Children will bring their reading books home every evening, and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words i.e, using their phonics knowledge to sound words out, looking at the pictures and looking for words within words, are ways in which the child can read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that the child has understood what they have read. Children will have bring home an organiser which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read with the child.

➤ **Spelling**

You will be told which spellings your child is learning in their organiser. Please practise these at home. You don't need to record them anywhere, however you may wish to write in their organiser when you feel your child has mastered them.

➤ **Phonics**

Children will have daily phonics lessons throughout Key Stage 1, which will also include ways that children can build up a secure sight vocabulary. It is vital that children build up a bank of words which they can read and spell on sight. Children will bring home some words/sounds each week for them to read, write and learn. Parents can help children to learn these, by practising them regularly and often. Children will often receive the same words again in order to practise them further. Children should have the opportunity to practice their words over the summer holidays.

➤ **Maths Tasks**

Parents can support their child by giving them lots of opportunities to practise these skills. By the end of year 2:

- Children should be able to double each number up to 20.
- Children should be able to halve each even number up to 20.
- Children should know their number bonds of all numbers up to 20. This means they should know how to make each number, for example 5 can be made by 0+5, 1+4, 2+3, 3+2, 4+1, 5+0
- Children should be able to tell the time when it is o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past on digital and analogue clocks.
- Children should be confident when using money. They should know the names of the coins and they should have experience of adding, taking away and finding change.

➤ **Times tables**

You will be told which times table your child is learning in their organiser. Please practise reciting this times table at home in different ways. You don't need to record them anywhere, however you may wish to write in their organiser when you feel your child has mastered them.

➤ **Creative Homework**

Each half term, all the children in Key Stage 1 will be set a project linked to their current topic. This homework is open ended and allows them to work on a creative project. The projects are then presented to the class on an open morning which parents are invited to. This allows everyone to celebrate the hard work and effort that has been put into them.

Homework in Key Stage 2

As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skill of independent learning. It is important that parents support their children, but good habits of independent study should be encouraged. The main focus for homework in Key Stage 2 continues to be Literacy and Numeracy; however children will be given more varied tasks in other areas of the curriculum.

How much time should be spent on homework?	Reading 10 minutes reading, 5x per week minimum	Spelling 5 minutes, 5x a week	Maths Tasks or Timestables 5 minutes, 5x a week	Creative Project A half term is given to complete the project and will be shared during an open afternoon with parents
---	---	---	---	--

What type of work will my child get?

➤ **Reading**

Children may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves, in the presence of an adult. The story and characters should be talked about and new words discussed. Older children need a clear understanding of the text that sometimes will go beyond the literal meaning. Children will read texts that are more detailed and will take longer to read. They should be encouraged to read all types of texts including non-fiction. Parents should continue to complete their child's reading record to show that they have read to an adult or had a discussion about the book.

➤ **Spelling**

You will be told which spellings your child is learning in their organiser. Please practise these at home. You don't need to record them anywhere, however you may wish to write in their organiser when you feel your child has mastered them.

➤ **Maths Tasks**

Parents can support their child by giving them lots of opportunities to practise real life maths skills at home such as

- Using money in situations that involve working out total cost and change.
- Using bus/train timetables to find out how long it will take for them to get to places.
- Being able to tell the time on both digital and analogue clocks.
- Cooking at home and weighing/measuring ingredients.

➤ **Times tables**

Children all have a username and password to access TTRockstars. This is monitored weekly by teachers and where classes are struggling with specific timestables, these will be practised in class time. Timestables are particularly important for Year 4 with the timestable check taking place in 2020.

➤ **Creative Homework**

Each half term, all the children in Key Stage 2 will be set a project linked to their current topic. This homework is open ended and allows them to work on a creative project. The projects are then

presented to the class on an open afternoon/morning which parents are invited to. This allows everyone to celebrate the hard work and effort that has been put into them.

Year 6 Homework:

In preparation for the SAT's test, Year 6 set extra homework to support and underpin learning that takes into account their starting point. This includes working on Reading, Grammar and Maths. More information about this can be found on the Year 6 class page on the website. They will also complete the tasks outlined above bar the creative project. However Year 6 will still participate in creative PACTs throughout the year.

Frequently asked questions

How can parents find out more information about homework?

- All information about tasks your child needs to complete at home will be in their organiser. It is crucial you check this every day.
- If parents need advice on how to support their children with homework then they can speak to the child's class teacher.
- Useful websites and extra information will be placed on the school website.

Why will children sometimes be given extra homework?

Children who take part in specialised lessons such as Booster Classes may sometimes be set extra homework to reinforce the work being done or if the child has struggled with a particular aspect in the lesson the teacher may write a comment in their organiser for a task to be practised at home which would support them. Additionally, children who work in a one to one situation with teaching assistants will sometimes be given extra homework.

In both cases, children should complete this work alongside their normal homework unless the child or the parents have been told otherwise.

What will happen if children don't complete their homework?

The expectation is that children will complete their homework. However if for any reason children are unable to complete their homework, parents/ carers should provide the class teacher with a note or contact the class teacher explaining why the homework has not been completed. Regular occurrences of your child not doing homework will hinder their progress in school.

What if a child says they have received no homework?

Your child will always have a task to do at home which is recorded in their organiser. If for some reason there is nothing written in your child's organiser please notify the teacher straight away.

How will the homework be marked?

Teachers will be testing children on their spellings/phonics and times tables weekly. This is the evidence teachers will use to give your child feedback on their homework. Reading will be commented upon in Guided Reading and the creative tasks will be marked orally during the open afternoon. Stickers or certificates may also be given.