

NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK - HOW WE DO IT!

RATIONALE

At North Primary School, we believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding across the curriculum, helping to raise the level of achievement of individuals. We recognise that education is most effective where there is a positive partnership between home and school. Homework provides opportunities for teachers, parents and children to work together, thereby fostering an effective partnership between home and school. We are confident that homework/learning at home will increase a child's enjoyment of learning and their depth of understanding. In turn this will continue to enhance the culture of lifelong learning and aid our pupils as they imagine, believe and achieve, both within our school and the wider community.

Objectives

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
- To promote partnership between home and school in supporting each pupils learning.
- To enable pupils to practice skills and apply knowledge.
- To consolidate and reinforce in school learning, deepening understanding and preparing pupils for future learning, both in and out, of school.
- To encourage pupils to develop self-confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own and to prepare them for the requirements of secondary school

Homework – A definition

Homework is defined as *any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers*. At North we see work completed at home as an essential part of education.

Our Homework

At North Primary school we have clear expectations of work to be completed on a weekly basis, from EYFS to year 6 (see table). In year 1 children have phonics homework packs which is sent and completed according to their letters and sounds phonics phase. In year 1 children also use 'MyMaths' and 'Bug Club', which is set on a personalised basis. All children in year 1 - 6 use two online resources weekly; 'My Maths' and 'Bug Club'. In addition they have access to times Table Rocks Stars website in order to practice their tables fluency. The minimum time children should spend on Homework are indicated on the table which has an overview of expectations and varies for each year/age groups. In Years 1 - 6 children also have grammar, punctuation and spelling (GAPS) books which are sent home weekly, with a task/s to be completed. Furthermore children have spellings which relate to in class teaching either in phonics, or teaching of specific rules that they must learn at home and will then be assessed on weekly. In years 1 - 6 homework is sent home on a **Thursday** and returned on a **Wednesday** to be assessed. It will be marked by the learners and then assessed and date-stamped by an adult. Children have individual passwords to access the online learning sites and work can be tracked and assessed electronically by class teachers.

It is a priority that **all** children at North Primary School spend time reading to an adult. This develops the culture of reading for pleasure and supports the partnership between home and schools. Minimum requirements for reading at home are set out in the table on the following page. We also expect parents/carers to record the outcomes of reading with their child, in every child's reading record. In addition to this we also have optional writing tasks that parents can carry out with children. These are located on the school website in the '**Student life**' section, along with access to all online learning tools.

Overview of expectations

Year group	Recommended weekly time	Maths	English	Reading	Developing reading for pleasure
EYFS	50mins <u>minimum</u> reading	Topical tasks based on class learning will be set weekly			10 minutes x 5 with an adult
1	50 mins homework tasks 1hr <u>minimum</u> reading	From January My Maths Fluency (x tables + basic facts practice) + Reasoning TTRS	Bug club Phonics Spellings From January CGP Grammar & Punctuation	Bug Club phonics/ Comprehension Library book + levelled reading book	10 minutes x 5 with an adult Books changed weekly Outcomes recorded by parent/carer
2	60mins homework tasks 1hr <u>minimum</u> reading	My Maths Fluency (x tables + basic facts practice) + Reasoning TTRS	Phonics Spellings CGP Grammar & Punctuation	Bug Club Comprehension Library book + levelled reading book	10 minutes x 5 with an adult Books changed weekly Outcomes recorded by parent/carer
3	70 mins homework tasks 1 ½ hrs <u>minimum</u> reading	My Maths Fluency (x tables + basic facts practice) + Reasoning TTRS	Bug Club Spellings CGP Grammar & Punctuation	Bug Club Comprehension Library book + levelled reading book	15 minutes x 5 with an adult Books changed weekly Outcomes recorded by parent/carer
4	90 mins homework tasks 1 ½ hrs <u>minimum</u> reading	My Maths Maths mastery booklet TTRS	Bug Club Spellings CGP Grammar & Punctuation	Bug Club Comprehension Library book + levelled reading book	15 minutes x 5 with an adult Books changed weekly Outcomes recorded by parent/carer
5	110 mins homework tasks 2hrs <u>minimum</u> reading	My Maths Maths mastery booklet TTRS	Bug Club Spellings CGP Grammar & Punctuation	Bug Club Comprehension Library book + levelled reading book	15 minutes x 5 with an adult Books changed when completed Outcomes checked by parent/carer
6	130 mins homework tasks 2 ½ hrs <u>minimum</u> reading	My Maths Revision tasks x1 arithmetic TTRS	Bug Club Spellings CGP Grammar & Punctuation	Bug Club Comprehension Library book + levelled reading book assessment practice tasks x1	15 minutes x 5 with an adult Books changed when completed Outcomes checked by parent/carer

Equality and Inclusion

As a school we promote equality and inclusion, therefore those pupils needing support to complete homework activities, as well as those with no/limited access to online resources will be invited to attend homework clubs, both in the school day and after school, where they can benefit from the support provided by teaching staff, to complete their given homework.

Role of teachers

- Integrate homework into planning
- To set homework that is personalised for individual learners
- Set interesting and engaging activities/tasks
- Explain when, what and how the work is done so that each child clearly understands
- Assess homework outcomes and monitor and record completion of homework
- To maintain a dialogue between home and school providing parents, carers and pupils support, when the need arises.

Role of parents

- Support the homework set
- Support children to access online homework
- Read with children and make a note in the reading record
- Support the school by explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning
- Discuss homework, encourage children and praise them when homework is completed
- Make the experience as pleasurable as possible
- Contact the class teacher if there is any misunderstanding regarding any aspect of the homework
- To support children with completing homework in a timely manner – this does not mean for an hour and 15 minutes the night before it is due! This will cause unnecessary stress. Please space out the homework and allow children brain breaks!

Additional homework

Some children may need additional practice above and beyond what we offer to all students, in order to accelerate and catch up to their relevant age related expectations. This could come in many forms. There will be a very clear rationale for this. E.g. a child in year 6 is struggling with their 6,7 and 8 time tables therefore additional multiplication sheets as well as My maths homework is set to reinforce the learning. A child in year 2 is struggling to join the 'ou' sound in handwriting. They may be given a worksheet to support this. Parents will be expected to support this and an adult will quickly assess this homework.

Some parents have been asking for writing homework. As a result we have put together some ideas for writing at home. **This is not work that will be brought in to be marked. It is optional work for parents and children to complete at home.** The tasks can be found on our Home Learning page. Children simply click on them and they will open the document. Teachers can print this for individual children who may have difficulty accessing it at home, but there is no expectation for children to complete this as we wish to encourage parents to engage with online/electronic homework.

Presentation

All homework is valuable. Any books that are sent home must be looked after. We expect the North Primary school expectations to be maintained with any work that is carried out at home.

Be respectful (of books and resources), we aim high, we come to school prepared with the things that we need and complete our homework on time, we always present our work neatly, we do not damage school equipment.