



Lymington Junior School Homework Policy

Rationale

At Lymington Junior School we recognise the importance of children developing a range of interests outside of school and the need for family activities. Equally we believe that homework is an important element of our commitment to home/school partnership and that it can extend and enrich children's learning. Homework is only set during term time and any activities suggested for holiday periods are optional.

Principles

We believe that homework should:

- reinforce a positive attitude towards work
- encourage self organisation and self discipline
- reinforce, broaden and extend the school curriculum
- develop home/school partnership
- prepare children for life opportunities and experiences.

Expectations

The homework activities set will vary both in quantity and expectation as the children move through the school, however all children are expected to read and share reading material at home with an adult regularly

Teachers will set tasks designed to support and extend learning as appropriate to each child's ability; as the children move through the school they are encouraged to self select the appropriate level of homework task. Children identified as having special educational needs will, where appropriate, complete tasks in common with their peers. There will, however be occasions when they may benefit from personalised tasks.

Guidance will be provided about the amount of time each task should take and support is always available in school for any child having difficulties. There are two homework clubs on offer across the school and individual year groups also provided drop in sessions.

Lower Home-School Communication Book

To follow on from Infant School practice and establish good reading habits and easy communication between parents and teachers the lower school have a Home/School communication book. The book is used to record information about regularly reading and any additional comments about homework.

This book may also be used in the Upper School to support individual children.

Upper School

Rather than a single communication book the Upper School children have homework text books for their Maths alongside their Spelling & Guided Reading text books. This enables home/school communication about the relevant homework task to be brought to the attention of the relevant teacher (not necessarily class teacher).

Overview of Homework Activities

Year 3

Reading	Either individual reading or a guided reading task of approximately 20 - 25 minutes (Guided reading introduced within the year when applicable)
Spellings	Sent home weekly for investigation to support teaching activities
Mental Math's	Introduced to particular children as appropriate normally summer term, 5 - 10 minutes on fun practice activity.
Project	Occasional very small project activities may be sent home during the school year linked to the wider curriculum

Year 4

Reading	Guided reading task of approximately 20-30 minutes
Spellings	Sent home weekly for investigation to support teaching activities
Mental Maths	Activities available on StudyWhiz, children asked to practice tables 5-10 minutes a week
Project	Projects of differing length may be set through the course of the year relating to the wider curriculum. (maximum of three small projects in a year)

Year 5

Reading	Guided reading task of approximately 30 minutes
Spellings	Sent home weekly for investigation to support teaching activities
Maths	Sent home weekly, range of mental & written tasks. 20 - 30 minutes
Projects	Projects of differing length set through the course of the year relating to the wider curriculum.

Year 6

Reading	Group read task of approximately 30 - 40 minutes
Spellings	Sent home weekly for investigation to support teaching activities
Maths	Sent home weekly - 30 minutes
Projects	Projects of differing length set through the course of the year relating to the wider curriculum

Role of Parents

Parents and carers are encouraged to:

- provide a reasonable peaceful, suitable place in which a child can do homework
- make it clear to their child that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework
- communicate with the class teacher if there are any concerns with homework

At home as well as at school there are times when events mean that no homework can be set or completed. If there are any problems the relevant book can be used to discuss issues.

Monitoring

This policy and the impact of homework will be monitored in the light of all school policies, in particular the Equality & Diversity scheme, to ensure that it best supports the children's learning and encourages positive, independent home learning. The information will be gathered in a range of ways including work sampling, pupil interviews and questionnaires. The outcomes will help us to evaluate our effectiveness and make any changes to our policy as required.

Policy Agreed following a significant amendment by Curriculum & Standards Committee:

Review September 2019	Approved
-----------------------	----------