



Homework Policy

All of our policies are underpinned by our Vision and driven by our Values of Friendship, Family and Fulfilment.

We believe that children learn best when parents, the school and children work together in partnership. We believe that homework, in its many forms, is important at all stages in a child's education and that when used properly, it extends the challenge open to the pupil and ensures that the teaching at school can be used to its maximum effect. We see work completed at home as a valuable part of the school curriculum. We strive to make homework manageable, meaningful and enjoyable for children and parents.

Aims

The aims of our Homework Policy are:

- to be consistent in our approach when we give homework, with its content and how it should be completed
- to support children's learning, by reinforcing skills learnt in class and by encouraging independent research skills
- to encourage children to develop personal organisation skills
- to take account of the needs of the individual child
- to ensure parents and carers understand what is expected of them

Ways in which parents can support children's learning at home

- Try to hear your child(ren) read every day (even if as little as 5 minutes). For older children, ensure that they have a novel 'on the go' and that they benefit from a wide reading diet, including information books, newspapers and magazines.
- Set aside time and a quiet space for your child(ren) to complete homework assignments. If necessary, break the task into smaller, manageable steps and allow time in between, particularly if your child is finding something difficult.
- Give your child(ren) help and encouragement. Try to get involved and above all, talk to them about their learning and listen to what they tell you.
- Try to involve your child(ren) in practical household tasks, in which they can apply their literacy and numeracy skills (e.g. reading instructions, measuring, counting money, cooking).
- Look on our school website www.pitton.wilts.sch.uk (Children>Educational Links) for links to some educational programmes.
- Read the information booklets on our school website, such as for Reading at Home or Mathematical Calculations, which support parents with guidance and strategies.
- Play card and board games which can develop your child(ren)'s mental mathematics skills and which encourage turn-taking.
- During school holidays, continue to hear your child(ren) read and help them to revise their times tables and key number skills such as doubling and halving.

- Read the termly class curriculum newsletters, which provide information on the content of subject lessons. Extended learning opportunities can be gained from family visits to museums, libraries and other relevant places of interest.
- Use the internet, as there are many websites that can help your child to explore the subjects they are learning at school.

As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning, and this will increasingly become its main purpose. It is important that children gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time, which may not be long, to study on their own. By the time children reach Year 6 their homework programme will cover a wide range of tasks and curriculum content, with a regular weekly schedule.

The following table presents the homework programme for each of our year groups and classes

The recommended time allocation each week includes all areas of homework given.

Year	Recommended time allocation	Regular/ongoing	Weekly	Special e.g. research/project
Rec/Y1	1 hour per week	Reading, phonics/sounds, 'tricky' words,	Spellings (for Year 1 and can be found in pupil reading record)	Projects twice a year
Y2	1½ hours/week	Reading,	Spellings (can be found in pupil reading record)	
Y3/Y4	2 hours/week	Reading (reading records checked weekly) Timetables (set Friday)	Spellings Mathematics or Comprehension (set Friday - submitted by following Friday)	
Y5/Y6	2 1/2 hours/week	Reading (reading records checked weekly) Timetables	Spellings, Mathematics or Comprehension (set Friday - submitted by following Friday)	

Children having extra support or extension work may also be set homework by the member of staff working with them.

HOMEWORK	
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