



# *Barrowby Church of England Primary School*

## **Homework Policy**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 While homework is an important part of a child's education, and we ask parents to support us in its implementation, it is more important that homework helps your child to learn rather than have a specific amount of time dedicated to its completion.
- 1.2 We will organise homework carefully so that children are not overburdened or required to do too much on any given day.
- 1.3 At Barrowby C of E Primary School, we prioritise the well being and happiness of our children and to that end we hope that their time away from school is spent positively, engaging with life enhancing experiences that allow them to enter the classroom refreshed and ready to learn.
- 1.4 We will ensure that parents/carers are informed of homework requirements through:
  - Our school website
  - Annual distribution of Curriculum & Reading Record
  - Curriculum events/information meetings
  - Parent/Teacher Consultations
- 1.5 For all pupils the main focus for homework at this school will be reading with opportunities for children to further practise and consolidate learning in Spelling and Mathematics as and when appropriate.

### **2. EYFS**

- 2.1 Throughout the Early Years, homework provides an opportunity for children and parents to consolidate, practise or extend skills learned during the school week and may include:
  - Reading books from our reading scheme Oxford Reading Tree and ELS. Two books sent home each week will be a phonics book to allow children to practice and develop their phonological awareness in line with their phonics teaching and learning in school.
  - Name book for children to practice reading and writing the first name and surname. When children can write their name independently the name book will no longer be sent home
  - Word tin for the children to work on their sight recognition of high frequency and 'tricky words'. When children can read the Reception word list on sight words will no longer be sent home.
  - Handwriting sheet will reflect the weekly focus in Phonics lessons.
  - Segmenting and Blending game that will reflect the weekly focus of the children teaching and learning in Phonics lessons.

### 3. Key Stage 1

- 3.1 Throughout Key Stage 1, homework provides an opportunity for children and parents to consolidate, practise or extend skills learned during the school week and may include:
- Reading books from our reading scheme, Oxford Reading Tree. In Year 1, at least one book sent home each week will be a phonics book to allow children to practice and develop their phonological awareness in line with their phonics teaching and learning in school. When children are secure in Phase 5 phonics or their reading ability means that they no longer need to use phonics as a primary strategy for reading they will continue to receive 3 reading books each week that further develop a range of reading skills beyond phonics.
  - When children have completed the Oxford Reading Tree scheme they will be allowed to choose a book banded book from the library using our Book band system.
- 3.2 During the Early Years (Reception) and Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and Year 2) homework will consist very largely of regular reading with parents and carers, looking at books together.
- 3.3 Learning to read is a very high priority and we therefore expect parents to support this learning. Infant children will need to be supported in their reading for between 10—20 minutes every day, depending on age and fluency levels.
- 3.4 A booklet entitled “Reading Together—a Guide for Parents” is available to download from our school website, to help support the teaching of reading. We ask parents to ensure that at all times reading is a pleasurable activity. Parental support and encouragement will also be sought for spelling activities.
- 3.5 Spellings-all Key Stage 1 pupils are expected to be able to spell accurately all of the words on the Y1 & 2 Common Exception Words Word Lists as well as a greater range of words. In order to do so, children will explore a wide range of vocabulary and spelling patterns; developing a deeper understanding and more accurate spelling.

### 4. Early Years & Key Stage 1 Homework Distribution

- 4.1 **EYFS** (approximately 1-2 hours per week)
- Reading- all EYFS pupils are expected to be supported to read at home for at least 10-15 minutes, every day.
  - Reading including words in tin, as appropriate.
  - Name book.
- 4.2 **Year 1** (approximately 1-2 hours per week)
- Reading - **all Year 1** pupils are expected to be supported to read at home for at least 15 minutes, every day e.g. reading book; Common Exception words etc.
  - Spelling practise.

- Mathematics activities as appropriate.

#### 4.3 **Year 2** (approximately 1-2 hours per week)

- Reading - **all Year 2** pupils are expected to be supported to read at home for at least 15-20 minutes, every day e.g. reading book; Common Exception words etc.
- Spelling practise.
- Mathematics activities as appropriate.

### 5. Key Stage 2

5.1 Throughout Key Stage 2, homework should continue to provide opportunities for children and parents to consolidate, practise or extend skills learned during the school week and includes:

- Reading;
- Learning spellings; and
- Developing speed and accuracy to recall number related facts.

5.2 **Reading**-all Key Stage 2 pupils are expected to read at home for at least 15—20 minutes, every day. This will need to be supported and the level of support necessary will be determined by the level of fluency.

5.3 **Spellings**-all Key Stage 2 pupils are expected to be able to spell accurately all of the words on the Y3 & 4 and Y5 & 6 Word Lists as well as a greater range of words. In order to do so, children will explore a wide range of vocabulary and spelling patterns; developing a deeper understanding and more accurate spelling.

5.4 **Mental Arithmetic**-all key Stage 2 pupils should be able to recall number related facts, whether posed as a multiplication or a division fact, within 5 seconds.

### 6. Key Stage 2 Homework Distribution

6.1 **Year 3** (approximately 2 hours per week)

- Reading
- Spelling
- Number bonds/tables e.g. 3, 4 and 8 times tables and associated division facts

6.2 **Year 4** (approximately 2 hours per week)

- Reading
- Spelling
- Number related facts/tables e.g. as previous year and up to and including 12 x 12 and associated division facts

6.3 **Year 5** (approximately 2 hours per week)

- Reading
- Spelling
- Number related facts/tables e.g. as previous year and recall squared, cubed numbers; identify/explain prime numbers; identify multiples;

identify factors/prime factors

6.4 **Year 6** (approximately 2 - 3 hours per week)

- Reading
- Spelling
- Number related facts/tables e.g. as previous year and up to and including 15 x 15
- Revision Material in readiness for SATs and secondary transition

6.5 We believe homework is an important part of a child's education, in enabling them to consolidate or explore learning experiences further but should not overburden children and their families.

The encouragement and support of parents/carers is vital in ensuring that children complete homework tasks, and in helping them to get the greatest benefit out of their homework opportunities.

However, in order for this to be effective we will be very mindful in terms of the amount of homework that we set.

**7. Homework Policy Review**

This policy is reviewed by the Head teacher, staff and Governors in accordance with Barrowby School's Policy and Review Cycle, every 3 years.

Last reviewed: October 2023

Next review: October 2026