



## Eccleston C.E. Primary School

*Let Our Light Shine*

### Homework Policy

Teaching, Learning and Personnel Committee

Reviewed: Autumn 2019

Approved by Teaching, Learning and Personnel Committee: Autumn 2019

Approved by Full Governing Board: Autumn 2019

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Review Date: Autumn 2022

## Introduction

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the e-Safety and Cyberbullying policies.

Eccleston CE Primary School intends homework to be a positive experience for the child and not a stressful one. The aim of this homework policy is to help our children develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning.

### The Purpose of Homework

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework gives children the opportunity to practise tasks done in class, help improve important skills, and encourage confidence and independence. Homework gives parents/carers an opportunity to work together with their children, and allows them to gain an understanding of what their children are learning in school.

### Time Allocation for Homework

It is expected that children will spend at least the following times on homework activities:

Year Group	Homework Activity
Reception	Reading books are sent home to be worked on at home with parents.
Yr 1	1 hr per week Reading every night Once a week learning logs assignments will be set Spellings and number bond work is set when children are judged ready
Yr 2 Yr 3	1-1/2 hour per week Once a week learning logs assignments will be set Spellings are set most weeks to compliment work done in phonics
Yr 4	Once a week learning logs assignments will be set
Yr 5/6	Once a week learning logs assignments will be set
In addition to learning logs children in Year 2 and KS2 should read, learn spellings and tables each week We also use an online Maths programme called MyMaths and teachers will often set homework to be completed on this.	

Please note this is in line with Government's recommended time allocation, based on current good practice, as set out in Homework: Guidelines Primary Schools and Secondary Schools.

### **Homework Schedule**

Homework tasks are generally set on a weekly basis. There might be occasions when more than one piece of homework maybe set.

Homework is not usually issued over holiday periods unless children wish to do further research on class topics. Eccleston does not sanction extra homework for children who are on holiday or because parents ask for it.

### **Spellings and Tables**

Class 2 children have daily phonic sessions to support their spellings and the teacher identifies a maximum of 3 spellings in the children's work.

Multiplication tables are given out at the start of the term and children are expected to work on them at home.

Class 3 and 4

Children are expected to practise their multiplication tables every night at home as part of their homework regime. Children are taught spelling rules as part of their literacy curriculum. Misspelt words in their work are identified by the teacher and the children are expected to correct them and then spend some time learning them.

The expectation is that the children will improve their spellings and times tables by working on them throughout the half term at home and in school. Continuous assessment of the children's progress will be undertaken throughout the year. In addition to this, children are expected to supplement this with spelling errors made in their work during the week.

It is possible that parents/carers could be given information for interactive spelling and times tables game websites, audio CD's and other methods that children can use to help support their learning.

### **Learning Logs**

At Eccleston we use learning logs as workbooks for homework. The homework task is an open-ended task which can be interpreted by the individual child. Children are expected to use a double page spread to present their homework. The children are encouraged to present their homework as they wish; teaching staff may give suggestions to the children. Time spent on homework tasks is expected to be in line with government guidelines as stated in this document.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Some children in our school may benefit from alternative tasks, separate from the homework set up for other children in the class. Close cooperation between teachers, parents and our special needs co-ordinator (SENCO) is vital and we recognise that it is important that children with special needs should do as much in common with other children as possible. The purposes of homework outlined in this policy should apply equally to pupils with special needs.

### **Feedback for pupils, parents or carers and teachers**

It is important that feedback is given to pupils as quickly as possible. This is given in a number of ways:

- Immediately by parents or carers
- Individual comment from teacher on written assignments
- Pupils reviewing the work done in small groups
- Presentation of homework in class and school assemblies

Where parents/carers have carried out activities with children, feedback to our teachers can be helpful and maybe included on a separate piece of paper; in homework diaries or in home/school books (Class One).

## APPENDIX 1: STAFF, PARENTS, CARERS AND CHILDREN ROLES

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of all the opportunities they are presented with
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be sure they have everything they need to complete the task each week
- Take responsibility for handing in the completed task on time
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

Parents/carers are encouraged to:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members, pets etc.
- Provide a suitable place, equipped with a comfortable chair, clear table space, good light, etc
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it.
- Support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework is completed
- Be actively involved in the homework of younger children.
- Not change the activity without first consulting with the class teacher.

Teaching staff support this policy by:

- Providing a range of homework tasks and activities to consolidate and extend learning in class
- Ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability.
- Marking and giving feedback about homework
- Communicating with parents and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics to be studied.
- Informing parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

## FURTHER GUIDANCE

### Homework in Class One (Reception and KS1)

Reading 4/5 times per week.

Eccleston School encourages a two-way dialogue through home/school and reading diaries. In these notebooks, which go home daily, teachers and parents make comments on what and how their child has read, parents can also address any questions they have directly to the teacher. Parents need to ensure that written comments are not open to misinterpretation of their tone by teaching staff.

### Maths

Other skills that parents can help with are (by the end of yr 2):

- Children should be confident in their 2, 5 and 10-times tables. They should be able to say them in order and mixed up.
- Children should be able to double numbers up to 20 and halve even numbers.
- 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
- Children should be able to tell the time when it's 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 should have experience of adding, taking away, and finding change.
- Whilst multiplication tables are not set routinely as homework, this is an area which parents can work on at home with their child.

### 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 maths; however, children will be given more varied tasks in other areas of the curriculum.

## Reading/Literacy:

Literacy tasks related to class work, will be assigned to the children once a week in Yrs 3-6.

To improve their reading, children should read at least three times a week. They may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves in the presence of an adult. The reading material should then be discussed, and new words or confusing plot issues clarified. Older children need to develop skills which will allow them to understand the reading material beyond the literal and parents can help through discussing a variety of text with their children. In addition, children should be encouraged to read all types of text including non fiction.

## Maths

Mathematic tasks, related to class work will be assigned