



# **Homework Policy January 2023**

**Written by: SLT and Teachers**

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## **Introduction**

At Crompton Primary School, we believe that children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. By valuing home-school learning, our learners are afforded the chance to practice skills, consolidate understanding of work covered in the classroom and to widen their own interests. Moreover, developing good study habits provides an opportunity for children to develop self-discipline, independence, resilience and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

Homework can add much to a child's development and attainment and we believe it is therefore an important part of our offer at Crompton Primary School.

## **Aims of the Policy**

Through the implementation of this policy, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest
- Ensure a consistent and progressive approach to homework throughout the school
- To encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, self-discipline and motivation needed to study on their own and prepare them for the next phase of education
- To make and set homework relevant and meaningful for the child linked to work done at school
- Make expectations about homework clear to children, parents and other carers
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school

## **Principles**

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.

- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance.
- As the children progress through the school so the amount of homework increases.
- Teachers ensure that the tasks are adapted to individual need, purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills.
- High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.
- Homework should be linked to previous learning and key skills, and must be meaningful and relevant.
- Parents will be informed about our aims in setting homework and about the importance this type of work plays in children's education.

### **Homework Activities**

Children will secure their understanding of maths, reading, spelling and grammar, the core skills needed to be a successful learner.

A breakdown of how homework is structured in each year group / phase of learning is provided below.

This has been designed to encourage a gradual progression of skills and expectation so that by the time children reach Year 6, they have established a clear routine in preparation for secondary school.

### **Foundation Stage**

- Reading and sharing books daily
- 'Tapestry Challenges' – ideas for parents/carers to try at home and post photos and comments on Tapestry
- Current phonics and handwriting practice
- Children may be given additional 'top-up' practice of phonic sounds and/or common exception words

### **Key Stage 1**

- Reading encouraged daily with a signature in the reading record. In Year 1, books may be a library book which the parent would read to the child or a book linked to phonics. In Year 2 a levelled reading book will be sent home.
- Spelling activities using the online platform, Spelling Shed, once each week
- Learning of multiplication facts 2, 5, 10 (and starting on 3 when ready) using Times Table Rock Stars (Year 2 only)

### **Lower Key Stage 2**

- Reading 4 times a week with records and activities recorded in the Reading Journal (NB reading journals are gradually introduced toward the end of Year 3. Prior to this children will have a reading record book as in Key Stage 1).
- Learning times tables using Times Tables Rockstars (continuing with 2, 5 and 10 and learning of multiplication facts 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 & 12 when ready)
- Spelling activities using the online platform, Spelling Shed

### **Upper Key stage 2**

- Reading at least 3 times a week with records and activities recorded in the Reading Journal. There may be additional reading comprehension activities from time to time.
- Learning of multiplication facts ongoing - all tables to be revised, in any order, mixed and to include division (TT Rockstars)
- Spelling activities using the online platform, Spelling Shed
- Maths homework set on Microsoft (paper copies available for those children who have no access to a suitable device.) (Year 6)
- Short piece of grammar homework to revise skills (Year 6)

### **Expectations**

It is the expectation that all children will at least attempt to complete homework tasks to the best of their ability. If pupils need support to access these activities, they will have opportunity to speak with staff at break times before the homework is due in.

Dates for handing in homework are always made explicit by the class teacher.

Pupils are expected to complete homework to the same high standards insisted on in class e.g. neat handwriting, accurate use of full stops and capital letters etc.

Whilst we will encourage children to complete homework, and offer opportunities to complete in school if they are unable to do so at home, we do not believe that children who lack support with homework at home should be further disadvantaged by receiving a sanction for non-completion of homework.

Children will therefore not miss a break time as a sanction but may be encouraged to get homework support from their teacher, which may take place in a break time.

### **How you can help your child with their homework**

Below is a list of ways that you as a parent/ carer can show your child that you value their homework and the time and effort spent completing it.

Teachers will also provide clear and regular reminders of their expectation when it comes to homework. As a school we hope that you will find this guidance helpful in supporting your child fully with their homework.

Enthusing your child about undertaking homework and modelling the high value of homework to them is of key importance.

You can show you value your child's homework by:

- providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support,
- making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning,
- encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed set work,
- signing and dating your child's completed reading record / journal and / or paper based homework to show that it is a true reflection of their best efforts,
- ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time,
- checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework,
- Speaking to your child's teacher at the earliest opportunity, if the homework is causing an issue or is too challenging.

Additionally, you may wish to support your child's development by:

- visits to libraries, museums etc.
- cooking with them
- taking your child swimming
- playing games e.g. board games, cards, ball games
- watching informative TV programmes together
- providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- gardening and growing plants,
- using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning

Remember: Homework is about reinforcing, practicing and confidence building.