



Summary of homework expectations for children in EYFS-UKS2, including teachers' role and parents' role in supporting children to work at home.

Homework Policy

Revised September 2018

Falconbrook School

Why do we give children homework?

- To give children an opportunity to practise skills they have been learning in school.
- To give children opportunities to prepare work for special projects and topics.
- To encourage children to develop self-study skills and self-discipline which can prepare them for future learning & expectations of secondary school.

Keeping a balance:

We know that children often have commitments outside of school. We hope that parents and carers will support children in maintaining a balance between homework, other classes / activities and time for relaxing, playing and watching TV.

What do we expect children to do for homework?

We expect all children to read at home each night. This may be a combination of:

- Reading alone
- Reading with an older member of the family
- Being read to by someone else.

It is important that all children learn that reading is fun!

Below is guidance on the amount of time children of different ages should spend reading / sharing a book each night.

Age group	Suggested reading	Time spent each evening
Nursery & Reception	Being read to by an older member of the family.	10 minutes
Year 1 & Year 2	Sharing a book, or being read to by an older member of the family.	10 -20 minutes
Year 3 & Year 4	Sharing a book or reading independently (if a confident reader).	20 - 30 minutes
Year 5 & Year 6	Reading with an older member of the family or independently.	30- 45 + minutes

Reading Diaries

Children in In Reception - Year 6 have a **Reading Diary**. Below is guidance on how these may be used at home.

Year Group	Guidance on using Reading Diary at home
-------------------	--

Years 1 & 2	After sharing a book or reading with an older member of the family, adult (or other older member of the family) supports child to record what they have read together in the diary (adult may write this themselves)
Years 3,4,5 & 6	After reading at home (with member of family or independently) child writes own entry in reading diary

What other kinds of homework may my child be given?

Spellings:

- Your child's class may be looking at words that fit a particular spelling pattern.
- There may be words the children need to learn to spell because they'll be using them for a special project (e.g. Science vocabulary)
- Your child's teacher may have noticed your child needs to practise particular spellings.

Number Work:

- Your child may be asked to practise particular **number bonds** that they have been learning about in school.
- Your child's class may be working on a particular **times table** that they need to learn & practise at home.
- Your child may be asked to **practise a method** of addition / subtraction / multiplication or division that they have been learning at home.
- They may be given a **maths problem** to solve!

Research:

- When your child's class is working on a particular project in the class they may be asked to do a bit of research in order to prepare themselves for their class work.

Homework for children in the reception classes

Children in reception classes will also be given phonics and number skills work to practise at home. It is important that they are supported to do this work by an older member of their family.

How often will my child be given homework?

- All children are expected to read at home each night.
- They will be given other homework according to their age and the work being done in their class.

Do children *have* to do their homework?

It is very important that all children are encouraged to develop good learning habits.

Parents can support this by asking their child **what** homework they have, as well as their usual reading homework, encouraging their child to sit down and do their homework and praising them when they complete it.

By the time children reach Year 4, 5 & 6 we do expect them to **complete all homework** and to do this with **increasing independence**. If they fail to do this their teacher will arrange for them to do so during their playtimes.

Teacher's role:

Your child's teacher will:

- be responsible for making sure that the homework they set is manageable, and matched to your child's ability.
- check that your child is given sufficient opportunity to learn spellings, times tables and number facts.
- give feedback to your child on the effort they are making with their learning and talking to their about impact this is having on their progress.

Parents' & carers' role:

- To help your child to do their **reading** homework ***every night***.
- Please ask your child if they have **any other homework** and help them to settle down to do it (without the TV on).
- Make it clear to your child that **you** value the importance of homework.
- Check your child's homework when they have completed it, and make sure it has been done to the best of their ability.

Remind your child to bring their homework back into school on the correct day.
Make sure your child bring their book bag and reading diary into school every day.