



Falconbrook Primary School

Homework Policy

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2020

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 each child to do for homework?

We expect all children to read and practise their number skills at home every day.

This may be a combination of:

- Reading/practising alone
- Reading/practising with an older member of the family
- Being read to by someone else
- Practising through games (online and offline)

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

Age group	Suggested number skills	Time spent each evening
Nursery & Reception	Counting forward and backward from 10. Singing number songs.	10 minutes
Year 1 & Year 2	Number bonds to 10. 2, 5 and 10 times tables.	10 - 20 minutes
Year 3 & Year 4	Times tables up to 12. Adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers.	20 - 30 minutes
Year 5 & Year 6	Times tables up to 12 Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing numbers up to 4 digits.	30 - 45 + minutes

Reading Diaries

Children 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 Reception, 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?

These resources will given to children as paper copies and/or accessible on MS Teams.

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.

Knowledge Organisers:

When your child's class begins a new unit they will bring home a Knowledge Organiser. Your child can complete any learning linked to the unit and the information on the Knowledge Organiser for the length of the unit.

This can include:

- Research activities
- PowerPoint presentation
- Art/craft/model
- Poster
- A visit to a museum/gallery/park

The learning is encouraged to be creative and completed together with a family member or carer.

Homework for children in the reception classes

Children in reception classes may be given phonics, handwriting 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 and practise number skills 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.

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 them about the 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.
- Write in your child's reading diary each day, or help them to do this for themselves.
- Remind your child to bring their homework back into school on the correct day.
- Make sure your child brings their book bag and reading diary into school every day.