

**Date approved :**

**Date to be reviewed:**

**Governor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **King's Stanley C of E Primary School**

### **Homework Policy**

In this guidance homework refers to any work or activities that pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

#### **Introduction**

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important as it gives pupils the opportunities to practise at home tasks done in class, to undertake more detailed research and to further develop specific skills. It also helps pupils to become more confident, independent learners, building skills they will need throughout their time at school and into adult life.

The foundations of effective homework practices are established early on develop progressively across the key stages and support effective transition to the secondary phase.

#### **Aim**

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- To use homework as a tool to help to continue to raise standards of attainment
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in mathematics and literacy
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school

#### **The nature of homework**

Homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupil's school life. Generally the amount and frequency increases as the pupil gets older. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.

#### **Recommended time allocation**

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Homework is given out on a Thursday and is expected to be returned on the following Tuesday, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables.

The following are government recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities

Years 1 and 2 – 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4 – 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6 – 2.5 hours per week

### **Homework tasks**

Homework is meant to be enjoyable as well as improving children's learning. As listed below are a number of other tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to change. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

### **Year Reception**

#### **These may include:**

- Picture/reading books
- Counting up and down stairs
- Reciting nursery and counting rhymes
- Using a camera to take pictures around the home
- Identification of shapes in the environment
- Sound book
- Flash cards
- Phonics boxes
- Creative activities

### **Years 1 and 2**

#### **These may include:**

- Reading
- Spellings
- Real life maths problems e.g. shopping, car, bus and house numbers and identification of shapes in the environment
- Topic investigation
- Flash cards
- Phonics boxes
- Creative activities

### **Years 3 and 4**

#### **These may include:**

- Reading
- Spelling
- Literacy activities
- Mathematics activities
- Times tables
- Topic investigation
- Creative activities

### **Years 5 and 6**

#### **These may include**

- Reading
- Spelling
- Literacy activities
- Times tables
- Mathematics activities

- Researching topics
- Creative activities

### **Reading**

Regular reading practice is an essential part of the homework schedule. Parents should aim to read with their child at home every day. Children are given reading books to share with their parents at home. Children are also given a reading record book in which parents are asked to record comments on their child's progress. Your child's class teacher or another member of staff checks the reading record book weekly.

### **Children with special needs**

The homework that is set is differentiated to reflect the different ability levels within the class. This may be through the setting of different activities or differing expectations of outcome.

#### **Role of the class teacher**

- Class teachers will provide parents with a homework schedule at the start of the autumn, spring and summer terms.
- To provide an explanation to parents when necessary of how they might assist their child.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught
- To mark homework when necessary and to give feedback to pupils.

#### **Role of parents/ carers**

- To sign a home school agreement that contains a section pertaining specifically to homework
- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities
- To make it clear that they value homework and support the school by explaining how it can help learning

At our school we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much! However there are times when we want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

The homework policy will be promoted throughout the school, made available to parents and carers and is implementation and effectiveness will be regularly reviewed

**Signed:**

**Date:**