



Hollywell Primary School

Homework Policy

2024-26



At Hollywell Primary School we believe that education is a life-long process, and we encourage parents to play a full part in their children's education. We know that children succeed greatest when school and home, work together in a mutually supportive partnership with the best interests of the child at the heart of all we do.

Homework activities are an important part of our home/school partnership and children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned.

Homework can help consolidate learning and, as the children move through school, can assist in the development of important work habits, such as personal organisation and self-discipline.

Our homework policy is designed to:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work in partnership and to share and enjoy learning experiences
- Consolidate and reinforce basic skills and knowledge, especially in English and Maths
- Provide opportunities as children get older to develop skills of independent learning

We encourage parents to:

- Be an active part of their child's education and support the school ethos
- Attend parents' meetings and support school activities wherever possible
- Be an active communicator and keep school informed of any issues which might affect their child's work or Behaviour and report any concerns their child has that they feel relevant
- Support their child's learning in all areas and assist them with home-based tasks

ENGLISH

Reading

Fluent reading and good comprehension skills have a key role to play in children's learning across all areas of the curriculum. Fluency in reading is achieved through practice. Therefore, it is important that the children read outside of school at least 5 times a week.

Spelling and Phonics

In EYFS and Year 1 children will bring home phonics sounds and high frequency words to practise at home. Spellings for each year group will be sent home starting during Year 1. Children are expected to learn these at home. Teachers will assess spelling through daily application in their writing across all their work. There may also be a weekly spelling test.

MATHS

Times Tables and Related Facts Knowledge

Children need to be able to recall all the times tables up to 12x12 by the age of 9. When it comes to times tables, speed and accuracy are important. The more facts a child remembers, the easier it is for them to complete harder calculations.

Speed recall is achieved through practice. This includes understanding the links between multiplication and division including related facts. E.g. $7 \times 8 = 56$; $56 \div 8 = 7$; $560 \div 7 = 80$; $70 \times 80 = 5600$

Research shows that daily practice is the best strategy for children to learn these important number facts. Short bursts of daily practice are much more effective than spending longer amounts of time once a week.

We suggest children learn/practice times tables and related facts for at least 15 minutes 3 times week. There will be a weekly times table check in Years 3 and 4 progressing to application of these skills and associated facts in Year 5 & 6 . Times table checks will be introduced part way through Year 2.

Homework Expectations

EYFS

- Children bring reading books and sharing books home to share with you. About ten minutes is an ideal amount of time to spend on this activity ideally every night.
- Learn/practice phonics sounds and tricky words.
- Small tasks linked to classes current class topics.

Extras to practice at home weekly

- Counting, including playing board games.
- Name writing practice.
- We would recommend that you read your child a bedtime story.

Year 1

- Children will bring reading books home regularly to share with you. Between ten and fifteen minutes is an ideal amount of time to spend on this activity, ideally every night
- Learn/practice phonics sounds/ spellings
- My Maths tasks
- Your child may bring home activities linked to a specific area of learning, which has been covered during the week, which is both purposeful and relevant in the consolidation of your child's learning, but only when appropriate.

Extras to practice at home weekly

- Work on number bonds e.g : pairs of numbers that add to ten. 3+7, 4+6,
- Counting up and down. For example, counting up in 2s to 20
- We would recommend that you read your child a bedtime story

Year 2

- Children bring reading books home regularly to share with you. About fifteen minutes is an ideal amount of time to spend on this activity, ideally every night
- Learn/practice spellings
- Learn/practice number bonds/times tables
- My Maths tasks
- Your child may bring home activities linked to a specific area of learning, which has been covered during the week, which is both purposeful and relevant in the consolidation of your child's learning.
- 'Author of the Term' project

Extras to practice at home weekly

- Work on number bonds e.g : pairs of numbers that add to hundred. 30+70, 40+60
- Counting up and down. For example, counting up in 2s to 20, 5's to 100
- We would recommend that you read your child a bedtime story

Year 3

- Read at least 5 times a week to an adult – ideally daily
- Learn/practice weekly spellings
- Learn/practice times tables for at least 15 minutes 3 times week - this will be set on TT Rock Stars
- My Maths tasks
- Half termly project linked to the current class topic

Year 4

- Read at least 5 times a week to an adult – ideally daily
- Learn/practice weekly spellings
- Learn/practice times tables for at least 15 minutes 3 times week - this will be set on TT Rock Stars
- Weekly piece of English/maths or topic including tasks set on 'My Maths'

Year 5

- Read at least 5 times a week
 - Learn/practice weekly spellings
 - Weekly piece of English/maths or topic including tasks set on 'My Maths'
- Tasks may also be given to specific children to aid consolidation of a particular area they found tricky.

Year 6

- Read at least 5 times a week
 - Learn/practice weekly spellings
 - Weekly piece of English/maths or topic including tasks set on 'My Maths'
 - Additional SATs preparation may be set by the teacher
- Tasks may also be given to specific children to aid consolidation of a particular area they found tricky.

Our staff will:

- set tasks that are matched to our pupils' needs
- ensure children are aware of homework expectations
- encourage our children to 'have a go' and take pride in their achievements
- communicate with parents and keep them informed of their child's progress
- support and listen to parents who ask for our help
- always acknowledge completed homework
- reward children for their effort in completing tasks

Reviewed: May 2024, Next review due: May 2026