

A Homework Guide for Parents

At New Chapter we understand the importance of homework and ensure that our children:

- Take a reading book home every day. Change their library books every week and are expected to read on at least 4 occasions at home each week; with parents making a note in the planner.
- A variety of weekly numeracy, spellings, timetables, writing or topic based tasks are set.



Why is homework important?

Homework gives your child the opportunity to reflect and think about the learning that has taken place in school and to practise applying their newfound knowledge and skills to other situations and problems.

Homework can also be used to help your child prepare for up and coming lessons; giving them the opportunity to research and find out about new topics, that they will be studying in greater detail during their lessons.



- It improves your child's thinking and memory;
- It helps your child develop positive study skills and habits that will serve him or her well throughout life;
- Homework encourages your child to use time wisely;
- It teaches your child to work independently;
- Homework teaches your child to take responsibility for his or her work;
- It allows your child to review and practice what has been covered in class;
- Homework helps your child learn to use resources, such as libraries, reference materials, and computer web sites to find information;
- It encourages your child to explore subjects more fully than classroom time permits;
- It allows your child to extend learning by applying skills to new situations;
- It helps your child integrate learning by applying many different skills to a single task, such as book reports or science projects;
- Homework helps parents learn more about what their child is learning in school;
- It allows parents to communicate about what he or she is learning and encourage them to spark their child's enthusiasm.



Types of Homework

Homework will take the following forms:

1. Completion of Work

Finishing off tasks already started in class. This will vary from one student to another, depending on many factors i.e. how easy or difficult they find the work.

Examples:

- completing extended pieces of writing;
- completing questions.

2 Practice and Application

Provides children with opportunities to apply new knowledge, or review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills.

Examples:

- consolidation exercises, e.g. maths, including memorisation of tables;
- practicing for mastery e.g. spelling words;
- reading for pleasure and essay writing .

3 Extension Assignments

These encourage children to pursue knowledge independently and imaginatively - to enrich classroom experiences, to deepen understanding and to relate learning to the real world.

Examples:

- preparing a project or researching a topic related to history, geography or local news;
- making or designing something for art;
- designing investigations related to a science topic.

4 Preparation

Provides opportunities for children to gain background information in preparation for a future lesson(s).

Examples:

- background reading and studying for tests;
- reading parts of a book for classroom discussion;
- researching topics for an upcoming unit of study.



When is homework set?



Homework is set once a week and it should be noted in the planner. All children will have homework set by the Friday of each week but in KS2 children may have received it earlier in the week (i.e. set when it is appropriate)

The time your child spends on homework is less important than their understanding of it

Here is a rough guide to suggest how much time your child should be spending on the work set. If the work is taking more or less time on average please let the teacher know.

Year Group	Time Recommended	Reading	Spelling	Maths/English or Topic
EYFS	Recommended daily practice 10 mins/day	Reading each night	High frequency words on flash cards to practice reading	10 minutes work each week
1	Recommended daily practice– 10 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	Set of words (3-6) to learn each week	15 minutes work each week
2	Recommended daily practice– 10 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	Set of words (5-8) to learn each week	20 - 30 minutes work each week
3	Recommended daily practice– 15 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	Set of words (6-10) to learn each week	20 - 30 minutes work each week
4	Recommended daily practice– 15 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	Set of words (up to 10) to learn each week	30 minutes work each week
5	Recommended daily practice-20 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	Set of words (up to 10) to learn each week	30 minutes work each week
6	Recommended daily practice-20 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	Set of words (15 at the most) of literacy words and 1 set of general words to learn each week	30 - 40 minutes work each week

*Whilst children in the EYFS do have homework tasks set each week, not all of these will have a written outcome. Some tasks will include activities such as conversations or songs which parents are asked to join in with in order to support their child's development across the curriculum.

When is homework due in?

Homework is due in on the Thursday of the following week. The handing in of homework is monitored and parents will be contacted if homework is not completed. If homework is repeatedly not completed then children will be placed in homework club.

How can you support your child with homework?

You can support your child with their homework by:

- checking that their homework is brought in on the correct day Thursday;
- helping your child read the instructions and making sure they understand what to do;
- providing a reasonably quiet, suitable place where they can do their homework;
- being positive and taking an interest in what they are doing;
- showing your child you value homework and explain to them how it can help their learning;
- encouraging and praising them whilst they are doing their homework, especially when it is completed;
- stopping it from becoming a chore, making it a fun time and a special time with you;
- making sure you do not do the homework for them; supporting them through the thinking process and not just giving them the answer;
- encouraging your child to complete their homework sooner rather than later, so that if there is a problem you can let the teacher know;

What do you do if you have any worries about your child's homework?

Teachers are very happy to speak to you about any issues your child may have with the homework set. You may also wish to write a note in the planner, so that the teacher can discuss the issue with your child before the work is due in.