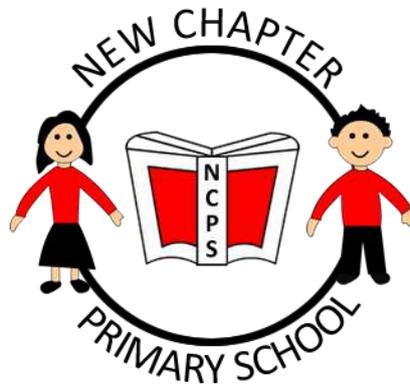


Milton Keynes Education Trust

New Chapter Primary School



Homework Policy

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on a two yearly basis.

The policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body on: 20 March 2013

It is due for review on: **20 March 2015**

Headteacher signature:

Date:

Chair of Governors:

Date:

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Principles

1.0 Introduction

Great value is placed on independent work completed out of school. It develops good habits and prepares children for the next stages of their education and the workplace. Homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

However, it is recognised that all children need leisure time and therefore there needs to be a balance, so that children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time.' It is recognised that homework takes place during a child's own time and may conflict with other activities. The experiences children have outside of school are major factors in shaping their attitudes, interests and outlook on life and for this reason we would encourage all parents to give their children opportunities to participate in activities and clubs which interest them. The support of parents/carers is highly valued, which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement.

By maintaining a consistent approach to homework and providing a channel for communication between home and school, we hope to strengthen our mutual cooperation for the benefit of the children.

2.0 Aim

Homework is set:

- To enable all pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

3.0 Rationale

Research shows that where purposeful homework is provided and there is a positive and active partnership between home and school, pupils' attainment is improved.

The school curriculum is increasingly demanding and leaves little time for extended practice or consolidation of basic skills. Homework offers a useful opportunity for children to develop skills independently; at their own pace and level of attainment.

By providing tasks which complement school work and take account of individual ability, teachers can help children to make quicker progress and to achieve better results.

Over the years we have consistently found that our most successful pupils are those who have attended to their 'learning' homework (spellings, tables, number facts), have been supported at home with their reading and have had supervision during written homework

assignments. Homework is regarded as an extension of our planned curriculum and is set for the following reasons:

- It is useful in consolidating and extending the work done in the classroom.
- It strengthens the educational partnership between parents and teachers.
- It provides parents with an opportunity to share and support their child's learning.
- It provides a means by which parents can monitor their child's progress.
- It encourages self-discipline and independent study skills.

4.0 Pupils who receive learning support

Those pupils who receive learning support in either Literacy and/or Numeracy may have specific tasks to complete in addition to homework set by the class teacher.

5.0 Pupils who are absent

If a child is absent due to illness when homework is set, the homework will be given to the child when they are next in class. If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what homework should be completed, how it should be marked and what sort of support is required to help the pupil. This will be done in consultation with the Headteacher.

Teachers will not prepare classwork/homework for a child who is being withdrawn from school for a family holiday.

6.0 Role of the Class Teacher

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance of how they might assist their child.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.
- To ensure all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who complete homework tasks to the best of their ability. i.e. stickers and stars for handing homework in on time as well as for the quality of the work produced.
- To keep a record of who has handed in their homework and take action if it is late.
- To mark homework ahead of the following week's being handed out and give feedback to pupils.

7.0 Role of Parents and Carers

- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- To inform the teacher of any difficulties which the child may experience in completing their homework
- To support the school by ensuring that his/her child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework i.e. at a table in a quiet space.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities i.e. listening to reading and asking questions about the reading, checking that spellings and mental maths facts have been learned and checking written homework to ensure neatness and completion.

- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To sign the homework when it is completed. This does not mean that the teacher expects the work to be corrected. Signing is seen as an indication that the parent is happy with their child's effort.
- To provide a written explanation to the class teacher if, for any reason, your child is unable to complete a homework task. Please note that non-completion of homework without a written explanation is not acceptable.

Practice

8.0 Homework Tasks

Homework will be set between Monday and Friday; to be completed and handed in by the following Thursday. The teacher will decide when it is appropriate to set the homework each week, to ensure it is meaningful and supports the class learning. The nature and amount of work to be completed at home will depend on the age and ability of the child.

All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the progress of their academic development. To support children with their homework an afterschool homework club occurs every Wednesday. A homework guide for parents is also on the website and in all application packs.

Year Group	Time Recommended	Reading	Spelling	Maths/English or Topic
EYFS	Recommended daily practice 10 mins/day	Reading each night and reading log completed	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

9.0 Feedback

All children receive feedback on their homework in a variety of forms such as:

- Verbal;
- Written;
- Class discussion;

- Praise and recognition during an achievement assembly or meeting Deputy or Headteacher;

Parents are asked to:

- give teachers any feedback they feel might be useful;
- encourage their children to talk about the feedback they have received;
- contact the school if they have any concerns.

10.0 Organisation

Each pupil is given a planner at the start of the year, in which homework tasks are written. Teacher and parent comments/issues/concerns can also be written in the weekly planner section.

Homework will be written on the board to be copied; children with learning needs will be supported by the teacher or Learning Support team member to ensure it has been accurately recorded. Homework tasks will be written on sheets which will be sent home. Upper KS2 pupils have a homework book, in which to do their homework

If homework is not handed in on time: The child will be given the opportunity to bring it in the next day. A note in the diary and a late mark will be entered into the teacher's records.

- If three late marks are recorded then home is contacted.
- If homework is not handed in, it is recorded as an X. Two Xs means parents are contacted and the child is entered for homework club.