



Thameside Primary School: Homework Guidelines

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Policy reviewed by:	Ingrid Burton
Key Changes:	P3 Updated School Council views P4 added Transition to Year 7 added Appendix 1 has been updated to be in line with current practice



Homework inspires Resilience, Assurance, Independence and Integrity with No limits!

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 28 Children have the right to a good quality education. Children should be encouraged to reach the highest level they can.

Context

This policy has been reviewed with the School Council who agreed that they were very happy with the amount of homework set. They spoke positively about 'own work' and said they particularly liked the open-ended structure as they felt they can do what suits their interests. Year 6 were in agreement that increasing the amount of homework for Year 6 children in Term 6 would help with the transition to secondary school.

Aims

- To develop independence and individual responsibility for learning
- To extend & support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision
- To provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership so that parents become actively involved in their child's learning
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences and experience the value of learning
- To encourage pupils to develop routines and organisational skills for future needs
- At Year 6, to prepare pupils for secondary transfer

We will:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding about expectations of themselves and the pupil in order to help all children achieve at the highest possible levels
- Endeavour to inform parents of children of the own learning topic

Own Learning should be:

- Related to classroom work where possible
- Well explained with a clear purpose
- Well planned
- In various forms – independent research, investigations using the home environment, learning tables, problem solving, discussions, observations and practical
- Challenging but within the pupils' capabilities
- Likely to promote confidence through success
- Rewarded through recognition
- Promoting oracy skills i.e. learning to talk and learning through talk
- Supported by parents



Ownwork

Ownwork will be set regularly throughout the year. Ownwork work will be set on a theme based on things the children are learning about in school and is designed to be open-ended, for example, children could present their work as a poster, a Powerpoint presentation, a model or a puppet to name but a few.

Monitoring of ownwork will be done by the class teacher. Children will be provided with the opportunity to share their ownwork with the class, a small group or a partner.

Children who choose not to take part in ownwork will be encouraged to do so in the future by the class teacher and may be given time to complete the activity whilst others are presenting.

Reading

We expect children to read or be read to on a daily basis and for those instances to be communicated in the children's reading record. We may ask children to take part in reading challenges.

Reading records will be continue to be monitored and used to inform parents of their child's next steps of learning.

Maths

Children in KS2 are expected to spend a minimum of 30 minutes a week on Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) Ideally children should aim to play for 10 minutes a day. For children in FS and KS1 TTRS is optional but recommended.

Knowledge organisers

Knowledge organisers are uploaded to teams account at the start of each new Science and Geography/History topic. Parents are encouraged to help their children commit the facts and information contained in these to their long-term memory through quizzing them, matching key words to their definitions, recreating diagrams, helping them to make links between other topics covered etc.

Additional Home Learning

Families can visit the ['Home Learning'](#) page on our school website for additional resources, links and games to support their child's learning at home.

Transition to Year 7

We know that many children struggle with the transition from primary to secondary school in terms of the amount of homework that is set. In order to support this transition in Term 6 additional homework will be set for children in Year 6. This homework will be set on Purple Mash and the children will be expected to complete 4-5 homework activities per week, in addition to their other homework expectations.

Parental involvement

- Parents should encourage and support children but it must be the pupils' own work
- Parents should provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their work at home
- Make it clear to pupils that they value pupils' own learning
- Praise pupils for attempting and completing work at home
- Parents are encouraged to feed back to teachers should any issues arise regarding homework

Homework expectations can be found in the front of reading records along with all the logins. For those parents who would like to supplement Thameside home/ownwork, they could use workbooks and revision guides which are available at most bookshops.

Evaluation and review

This policy will be reviewed every two years after consultation with the School Council and other stakeholders.



Appendix 1 is a brief summary of the sorts of homework your child may get at Thameside.



Homework

There are no guidelines for the amount of homework a primary age child should get.

Homework should be reasonable, enjoyable and should not impact negatively on home life.

Own Work

Topic work is set on a theme from school work. This could be presented in many ways - a poster, a Powerpoint presentation, a model, a puppet to name but a few.

Children present this work within the class.

We are happy to provide materials if asked.

For all children from YR-Y6

Focusing on well-being, spending time outside with your child at the park, playing games, cooking or completing some of the activities from the Insideout Weekly well-being guide is just as valuable as homework.

Times Table Rock Stars

In KS 2 it is expected that children spend a minimum of 30 minutes a week on TTRS, ideally playing for 10 minutes a day.

TTRS is limited for children between 7.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. and competitions are limited to 30 minutes a day

Reading

Reading should be an enjoyable experience for both you and your child.

When children are confident reading grey phonics-based books, they will move to AR. Children are able to complete AR quizzes either in school or at home.

All children have yellow reading records where parents can record reading at home. Children in KS2 are expected to record their own comments.

FS children are expected to read at home at least 3 times a week.

For KS1 & 2 the expectation is for children to read for 10 minutes a night.

For younger children games such as I Spy and memory games are fun.

For older children, games such as Scrabble and hangman are great fun.

Other homework such as spellings, book reviews and competitions may come home from time to time.

For additional homework ideas, links can be found on our home learning page
<https://www.thameside.reading.sch.uk/page/?title=home+Learning&pid=215>