

Headlands Primary School Homework Policy

Homework promotes independent learning and an understanding that learning can take place beyond the classroom. At school, staff will teach the children knowledge, skills and understanding and by working in partnership with home, we expect parents and carers to support the learning process to ensure that their child reaches their potential and develops a lifelong love of learning.

Aims

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. It:

- enables children to explore themes of learning before they come to learn about them in class
- reinforces knowledge, skills and understanding and promotes their application
- encourages independence and self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their own learning
- sets standards for life as children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for their future school career and life beyond
- fosters positive home/ school relationships

Types of homework

Brilliant Beginnings

In all year groups from Reception upwards, the children will be asked to complete a short task before the start of their new theme. This task will be called the 'Brilliant Beginning' and will require the children to grasp a basic knowledge and understanding of the subject content about to be explored.

Reading

We expect children to read **at least 4 times a week**. Reading at home should be a pleasurable experience and valued at all times. We expect parents/ carers to support the teaching of reading and to nurture a lifelong love of books. Parents/ carers are expected to initial their child's reading diary each time they share reading with them. The class teacher will initial and award a house point weekly if the child has met this expectation.

Multiplication tables

To meet national expectations, children are expected to know the following number facts by the end of the following years:

Year group	Requirement, to know by heart
Nursery	Count to 10 independently and know the value of 0-5 using objects
Reception	Count and understand the value of numbers to 20
By the end of Year 2	2x,3x,4x,5x,10x tables
By the end of Year 4	All table facts and inverse to 12x

Spellings (Year 2-6)

We have a comprehensive strategy that teaches children to spell. For homework, we expect that children will practice their spellings using the 'look, cover, write, say' approach. Spellings will be derived from the year group expectation, regular misspelt words and topic words. From Year 2, parents/ carers will be advised of the spellings that their child has to learn. The emphasis will be on children's accurate application of spellings rules rather than regular testing.

Writing/ maths tasks

Tasks for English and maths will be linked to what the children are doing in school. For example, a written task in Year 2 investigating 'What is it like to live on an island?' children might be asked to write a postcard from the coast using features of sentence construction and grammar that has been taught in class. For maths, for example in Year 4, with children investigating perimeter, they may be asked to investigate how many different shapes they can create with the same perimeter. This will then be discussed and taken further in class.

Learning logs (Year 5)

To extend their learning and pursue their own lines of enquiry, as well as applying their basic skills, the children will be expected to submit two in depth pieces of work per term inspired by the theme.

Differentiation

Homework will be differentiated to the needs of the individual.

Year 6- homework arrangements for Year 6 will respond to the learning needs of the individual child on the run up to SATs. Published study materials will support homework during this time.

Nursery- no formal homework will be set for Nursery. Parents/ carers will be advised how to support their child at home with regular newsletters.

Marking and feedback

All homework will be acknowledged by the class teacher in line with our marking and feedback policy. House points will be awarded for homework that is completed well.

Homework Schedule

Homework is given on a regular basis and is age appropriate. Apart from reading, occasionally homework may vary in response to a particular activity such as an educational visit, in these circumstances the teacher will write an explanatory note in the child's Home/School Partnership Book.

Year group	Homework set/ collected	As well as their 'Brilliant beginning' children will:
Reception	Reading- each day (approximately 10 minutes daily)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be expected to share a book from home/ library with their parent/ carer. This will be read to them to enable the child to enjoy the reading and a love of stories and information. When they are ready, they will receive a Read, Write Inc book that they will be able to read fluently and share with parents/ carers.
Year 1	Reading- each day. Maths- Friday for collection the following Wednesday . (Approximately 10 minutes daily.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> read either their Read, Write Inc reading book or share a book from the library/home (4x weekly) complete a maths task each week
Year 2	Reading- each day Maths/writing (alternate) - set on a Friday for collection the following Wednesday . Tables/ spellings- ongoing. (Approximately 15 minutes daily.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> read either their Read, Write Inc book/ other scheme book or book from library/ home (4x weekly) complete a maths task or writing task (alternate) each week tables/ spelling- ongoing
Year 3/4	Reading- each day. Maths/writing (alternate)- set on a Friday for collection the following Wednesday . One reading journal per term Tables/ spelling-ongoing. (Approximately 20 minutes daily.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> read scheme book or book from library/home (4x weekly) complete a maths task or writing task (alternate) each week tables/ spelling- ongoing
Year 5	Reading- each day. Maths/writing (alternate) - set on a Friday for collection the following Wednesday . Learning logs twice a term. Tables/ spelling-ongoing. (Approximately 30 minutes daily.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> read scheme book or book from library/ home (4x weekly) learning logs will be completed twice a term complete a maths task or writing task (alternate) each week tables/ spelling ongoing
Year 6	Reading- each day. Maths/writing - set on a Friday for collection the following Wednesday . Tables/ spelling-ongoing. (Approximately 30 minutes daily.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> read scheme book or book from library/ home (4x weekly) complete a maths task and writing task each week tables/ spelling ongoing <p>Children may also receive additional homework to secure their learning in preparation for SATs.</p>

Monitoring

Phase Leaders will monitor homework throughout the phase and talk to parents if expectations are not met. A homework club will be available to invited children who struggle to complete homework at home.