



# Homework Policy

Agreed April 2025

Review Date: April 2027

## Rationale

Through all of our practice, we endeavour to reflect the school values of **Kindness, Curiosity and Ambition**. Through our homework provision, we aim to be **kind** towards different family situations. Therefore, please discuss any variations which you feel your circumstances may require. **Curiosity** is reflected through children's widening of their learning outside of the school and parent's **curiosity** about their child's learning. We show **ambition** through continuing to challenge children's understanding outside of the classroom, demonstrating our high expectations for every child.

At Oakwood, we recognise the value of homework to promote learning but also understand the importance of family life. Homework is an opportunity for parents to share in their child's education. It reflects our belief that education is a partnership between parents/carers, children and teachers. At Oakwood we aim to help children to develop their interests in topics; develop a child's independence and pride in their work; encourage parental support of their children so that they can help their children progress.

## Aims of Home Learning

- to develop positive attitudes towards homework and develop effective learning habits to be built upon in secondary school
- to consolidate learning
- to share with parents/carers the work carried out in the class and help parents to become more involved in their children's learning
- to develop self-discipline, organisational and time management skills
- to provide opportunities to deepen learning and develop curiosity
- to develop independent learning and organisation

## Information for Parents

Parents will be able to find information about homework on our school website. Homework will be set on a Friday and children will be expected to return it to by Friday of the following week. We recognise that many aspects of children's lives involve the use of technology and screens. As such, we will endeavour to ensure that only one piece of homework each week requires a screen to complete. Homework will continue to be set through Google Classroom from Years 1 to 6.

## Quantity of Homework

At Oakwood pupils should not take significantly longer on homework tasks than the guidelines below:

<b>Reception</b>	Daily reading, phonics and "tricky words"
<b>Years 1 and 2</b>	Around half an hour per week plus daily reading
<b>Years 3 and 4</b>	Around 1 hour per week plus daily reading and practice of multiplication tables
<b>Years 5 and 6</b>	Tasks expected to take around 1.5 hours per week plus daily reading and practice of multiplication tables

## **Homework Tasks**

In Reception, home learning will be varied, depending on your child's needs.

From Key Stage One onwards homework tasks may include reading, spelling and learning tables. Homework should also be related to the work the pupils are doing in class. For example, if pupils are learning about healthy eating at school, they may be asked to complete a diary about what they have eaten at home.

Homework may not always be written work. It could also be reading with parents or relations, making something, trying out a simple science experiment, preparing a presentation for the class or playing games (like snakes and ladders) to practise maths skills.

It is important that:

- Home learning is valued, a child should take pride in their work and be encouraged to talk to their parents about it. If it is too difficult, take time to discuss this with the class teacher and how it can be adapted.
- Should be completed by the child to the standard we expect in school.

### **From Reception**

- Daily reading, phonics and "tricky words"
- Mathematics games, board games, counting and turn taking
- Parental support and interest in topics
- Encouraging care and respect
- Developing independence

### **Years 1 and 2-Reception activities plus**

- Weekly spellings using Look, say, cover write, check method
- Number bonds, telling the time, maths games

### **Years 3 and 4**

- Increasing range of reading
- Multiplication tables including division facts
- Weekly spellings
- One maths task
- One further piece of homework from a foundation subject

### **Years 5 and 6**

- Continuing to read widely, including reading aloud with expression
- Reading for enjoyment

- Multiplication tables including division facts
- Weekly spellings
- One maths task
- One further piece of homework from a foundation subject

### **Responsibilities of the teacher**

The teacher will:

- set homework according to the guidelines in the policy
- endeavour to ensure that instructions concerning homework are clear to all pupils in the class
- endeavour to ensure that the children are clear about when the homework is due in
- ensure opportunities are given for homework to be celebrated through special mentions, in-class sharing, pupil conferencing and classroom displays
- There are no expectations for written feedback to be provided
- not be expected to set homework or provide extra reading books when parents have chosen to take their annual holiday during term time
- ensure homework is accessible for all children. This may include providing printed copies where necessary and agreed in advance.

There may be occasions when homework is not set (for example, during SATs week and other key events).

### **Responsibilities of the pupil**

The pupil will:

- speak to the teacher before going home or before the homework is due in if homework is not understood
- speak to the teacher if they need a hard copy if homework has been set on Google Classroom
- show the teacher any comments or notes their parents have written about homework or any other matter
- complete the homework as neatly as possible using appropriate writing instruments to the standard expected at school
- complete homework on time

In KS2 children are encouraged to talk to their teacher if they are finding any aspect of homework difficult or they have not been able to complete the work set.

## **Responsibilities of the Parent/Carer**

The school encourages parents to:

- find a quiet place for their child to work at home
- offer encouragement to their child and help if they are stuck
- ensure their child has the appropriate equipment at home to enable their child to do the homework set
- value the homework that is set by the school and point out the benefits of it to their child
- help their child to plan the best time to do their homework
- provide feedback where requested particularly regarding reading so that parents and teachers can work together to support their child's learning
- write or email a note for the teacher or arrange a meeting if their child is struggling to complete the homework set
- talk to their child about their learning - taking an active interest helps children to learn
- Talk to their child about their reading, this helps the child to understand and explain the text they are reading

## **Home-School communication**

In some classes children will be encouraged to record their reading in their 'reading diaries' both at school and at home.

Parents are encouraged to hear their child read for a few minutes every day and/or to discuss the book with their child, including children who are reading fluently. A comment should then be made in the record book about the discussion and the child's reading.

Depending on your child's class a separate spelling book will be given, where weekly lists are recorded for pupils to learn. In other classes, weekly spellings will be put on Google Classroom.

Further communication can also be made by using the office email: [admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@oakwood.herts.sch.uk)

As per other policies, parents are expected to communicate with all members of staff in a respectful manner.

## **Procedures where homework is incomplete**

Teachers will draw to parents' attention cases where they feel homework is not being completed satisfactorily to the standard expected in school.

In KS2, where homework has not been completed or to the standard required an additional 24 hours will be given for the child to complete the work. If the reminder has not been acted upon, teachers will ask the child to complete the homework task (or a similar activity) during break time.