

REDDIFORD SCHOOL
INCLUDING EYFS
HOMEWORK POLICY

Introduction

Homework is an important link between parents, teachers and children and is a shared responsibility. The school needs to count on parents' support to see that homework is completed. If there is a need for clarification or any difficulty arises, parents should check with the Form or Subject teacher in the first instance.

Homework is an integral part of the school curriculum and will:

- be regularly set
- contain clear instructions
- be completed within a specified period

It is expected that all homework will be carried out with care and attention and neatly presented.

It is the parents' responsibility to:

- provide a suitable environment
- support where necessary and appropriate
- give encouragement and praise when work is completed

Homework will **not** be set during unauthorised family holidays taken in school time. If a child is absent no homework is sent home. However, if a child is absent for an extended period due to illness or accident, homework may be set by arrangement with the appropriate teacher.

Satchel One

The school's digital online platform Satchel One, can also be used to set homework for certain topics or activities by subject teachers. Pupils are issued with individual logins so that they can submit their work and receive feedback from staff. Parents are also issued with a login so that they can monitor their child's homework. This can also be used if a child is unable to attend school but is well enough to undertake school work.

At Reddiford School we set homework:

1. to foster the partnership between teachers and parents
2. to consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding learnt in class
3. to explore the full range of resources available at home and in the wider community
4. to encourage the confidence, motivation and self-discipline needed in independent learning
5. to prepare pupils for their future school careers

Reading

Throughout Reddiford School pupils are expected to read for at least 20 minutes each evening. This should be done with their parents when younger and alone in later

years. This regular reading is vital and the parental interest and example shown is most beneficial.

Form Teachers:

1. carefully select and regularly update their form, year or school library
2. encourage the steady development of each child's individual reading skills
3. monitor each child's progress and choice of books carefully
4. by their own example, encourage a real love of literature

Early Years Department

Book bags come in to school on Monday and go home on Friday.

Nursery

The children's book bag will contain a home-link book and a note informing parents of the activities and themes for the following week.

Reception

Regular reading is vital and it is recommended that all children read for a minimum of 10-20 minutes per day depending upon the age of the child. All children will have a reading diary, which must be signed and dated by parents on a regular basis. A reading book will be sent home at the end of each week. The reading diary will accompany these books and the two books should be kept together at all times.

From the start of the Spring term, children will take home an additional reading book weekly.

Other homework is given at the end of the week and always reinforces work covered in class. Completed homework should be handed in with the reading book on Monday.

Pre Prep Department

In the Pre Prep Department we aim to involve parents actively in their child's learning. Homework activities will include spellings, maths, English and occasionally other subject areas. The children may also be asked to play games, carry out interviews or practical investigations. The activities should take approximately half an hour each. The children may be set small projects or research over a holiday. Year 2 children record their homework in their own personal diary supplied by the school.

Parents will be informed of the homework schedule at the beginning of each year.

Library books are also sent home weekly to be read by the individual child or shared with their parents.

Homework diaries are signed by the parents on a regular basis and countersigned by the Form Teacher on a weekly basis.

All homework throughout the Pre Prep Department should be completed with parental support to encourage pride in presentation, correct letter and number formation and understanding of the task set.

Prep Department

In the Prep Department homework is subject based and is relevant to the curriculum and each child's individual needs. Homework includes spellings, number facts, interviews, practical investigations, written assignments, revision, information research and the preparation of oral presentations.

Homework is set according to a homework timetable which is issued to all children at the start of the school year. Each activity should take a maximum of 40 minutes to complete and the length and complexity of the assignments will increase with the child's age and ability.

In Years 5 and 6, however, where practice examination papers may be given, the time for completion may be up to 1 hour, dependent on the length of the paper. The homework timetable is modified for Year 5 and 6 children during the months preceding their 11+ examinations.

Year 3	20 – 40 minutes per subject
Year 4	40 minutes per subject
Year 5	40 minutes per subject Practise Papers (Mathematics, English & Reasoning) up to 60 minutes
Year 6	40 minutes per subject Practise Papers (Mathematics, English & Reasoning) up to 60 minutes

Homework Diaries

Throughout the Prep Department each pupil will have a Homework Diary. Parents should check that this is taken home every day and brought back to school the next day. It will show the date, subject and exact nature of the homework, plus the date when it has to be handed in. This will usually be either one or two days after the work has been set, although occasionally longer ongoing assignments may be given. Parents should enter the time taken to complete the homework in the relevant column.

Parents should sign each night and at the end of each week to confirm that their child has completed all the work.

The Homework Diary is also a convenient format for brief written messages between parents and staff.

Feedback and Monitoring of Homework

Feedback is essential and will be given through discussion, tests or individual comments. Homework is marked, evaluated and monitored by the Teacher who has set it.

The home school partnership is considered fundamental to the success of homework. Form or Subject Teachers will contact parents should any child's homework be late or unsatisfactory so that home and school can work together to help develop better homework habits.

The setting of appropriate homework and the completion of Homework Diaries will be monitored by the Form Teacher with the assistance of the Subject Teachers.

Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities which pupils are asked to complete outside lessons, generally on their own, occasionally with their parents or carers. The School believes that homework makes the greatest contribution to learning when pupils and parents/carers are clear about expectations.

It is also worthwhile to engage with parents and advise them on the ways in which they can help their child. Some suggestions are;

1. Identifying suitable resources in their home and local area
2. Providing a suitable working space for written assignments
3. Encouraging their children to organise their equipment and complete their homework at a suitable time each day
4. Displaying a real interest in completed work.