

SHERWOOD JUNIOR SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY - SEPTEMBER 2017

The Purpose of homework:

At Sherwood Junior School we believe homework to be an important and integral part of every child's education. It should:

- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding
- emphasise the partnership between home and school
- aid the development of personal organisation, time management skills and self discipline
- enhance, enrich and extend learning to enable children to develop their true potential
- in year six, help prepare children for transfer to their secondary schools

Co-ordination and Management of Homework:

Each child has an individual homework diary, and it is their responsibility to ensure that all homework tasks and activities are recorded accurately. Each child also has a special homework folder in which to keep all of their homework sheets etc.

It is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that all homework tasks and activities are clearly explained (both in terms of content and time expectations), and to give all children appropriate time and support to record this in their homework diaries.

One piece of formal homework will be given each week and an appropriate number of days will be given to complete it. These days will be the same each week. The type and length of home work will vary depending on the age of the children and the time of year, but there will be consistency between year group classes.

At Sherwood Junior School we acknowledge and value the fact that many children have various commitments out of school. We realise that it is

important to ensure that demands on pupils are as even and balanced as possible, by using homework diaries to communicate with parents and by adhering to the agreed days each week to give/complete homework.

We do not condone children being absent from school for holidays during term time, and therefore we will not organise homework for children to take with them, usually at the request of their parents.

The Role of Parents/Carers in Supporting Pupils:

At Sherwood Junior School we encourage children to share their homework with their parents/carers as we believe this emphasises the positive relationship between home and school, and it also keeps parents involved and informed.

We would expect all parents to provide a (reasonably) peaceful and suitable place in which the child can do their homework. When appropriate, we would encourage parents/carers to work together with their child, demonstrating to their children that they value homework and support our policy.

We expect homework diaries to be signed each week by parents/carers.

Homework Tasks and Activities:

At Sherwood Junior School the children benefit from a wide variety of homework tasks and activities as they progress through the school. Such tasks may include:

- written tasks
- individual research
- completion of tasks started during school time
- home topics
- reinforcement work
- preparation of presentations
- revision
- investigations

In addition, all children will be expected to read at least three times each week and this will be checked on Mondays by a member of staff. All children are also expected to learn spellings/ spelling rules, and to learn tables/number facts.

Feedback for pupils:

We believe that it is important for children to receive appropriate feedback for any work, including homework. This may take the form of written comments, individual discussion with the teacher, group discussion and peer evaluation.

We would also encourage comments from parents about their child's homework - how well they did on the tasks, whether they found them too easy/hard etc. These comments may be verbal, written in homework diaries or written directly on to the homework itself.

Each child will have their own personal 'homework folder' in which all homework will be stored. This will allow parents and children to review previous homework and the comments written by the class teacher.

Recommended Time Allocation:

At Sherwood Junior School we expect all children to complete all homework tasks with care and pride, within the time given. Children who consistently fail to complete tasks at home may be asked to spend part of their playtime or lunchtime catching up with their peers.

Teachers will generally plan homework tasks to be completed within the following timescales:

Weekly English/math tasks	20 - 30 minutes
Spellings	20 - 30 minutes
Reading	3 times each week
Tables/number facts	20 - 30 minutes