

Homework Policy



2021

Policy to be reviewed annually

Recommended by the Curriculum and Community Committee on _____

Ratified by the Governing Body on _____

Signature of Chair of Governors

Dated: June 2021

Purpose of Homework

At Wheelers Lane Primary School, we believe that all children should have the opportunity to consolidate, extend and celebrate their learning outside of the classroom, through designated homework tasks.

Homework will be delivered through a range of creative, focused and meaningful tasks, projects and challenges, relevant to their learning each term.

We believe that engaging in regular homework activities can have a positive and beneficial effect on children's learning habits; which will prepare them for their future as independent learners.

In line with the broad and balanced curriculum that we provide, we believe that homework should inspire and enrich learning.

We also recognise the opportunities homework can provide for children to share and celebrate their learning in partnership with the home, school and wider community.

Aims

Regular completion of homework will:

- Encourage children to become independent learners;
- Help to develop creativity and problem solving skills;
- Help children to develop/ celebrate their own learning style;
- Enable children to develop daily habits in reading to equip their learning across the curriculum;
- Provide opportunities for children to use a range of media to research, publish and present their work;
- Encourage positive dialogue about their strengths and areas to develop;
- Provide opportunities for parents to be directly involved in their children's learning;
- Develop links between the home, school and wider community.

School's Role

We will support children by ensuring that homework is:

- Stimulating, varied and relevant to current learning;
- Differentiated - providing open-ended opportunities, where appropriate;
- Fully explained and modelled prior to being sent out;
- Manageable in line with age-related expectations;
- Matched to different learning styles;
- Acknowledged and celebrated.

Parental Role

Parents/ carers can support their children by:

- Organising a regular day/ time each week for completion of homework;
- Explaining the task and providing an initial modelled example;
- Providing opportunities for them to complete the majority of their homework independently;
- Having high expectations for presentation and effort;
- Giving them praise and encouragement for their efforts.

Organisation

At Wheelers, we recognise the importance of both daily tasks such as reading and number facts and weekly tasks that consolidate learning across the curriculum.

Examples of daily task recommendations:

(These will be decided upon by individual class teachers)

EYFS/KS1:

- Reading / sharing a book for 5 minutes each day
- Revising phonemes to develop phonic knowledge

- Learning high frequency words

KS2:

- Reading daily to develop reading stamina
- Recalling times tables / number facts
- Completion of designated tasks in workbooks (Year 5/6)

Examples of weekly tasks:

(These will be linked to the current topic and set by year groups)

Year groups will be given the flexibility to organise their tasks each term. Examples of what the tasks might look like are detailed below:

- **Homework Task Grids:**

Here the tasks have been planned to link with each year group's current topic across the curriculum. Where possible, teachers will provide opportunities for children to share outcomes using a range of media, as well as increasing the use of online resources, apps and various platforms.

12 Box Homework Acts EYFS - Autumn

Make a picture of yourself using any medium.	Go to the library and find a book to read.	Build a den.
Draw a picture of your house and include your house number.	Bake a cake or cupcakes and talk about the ingredients and recipe instructions.	Go the park and collect as many different leaves as you can. Collect some pine cones and conkers to bring to school.
Write a shopping list and refer to this when you are shopping together.	Take a picture of you and your family and bring to school to share.	Create a junk model of your choice to bring to school and share.
Create an Autumn picture using a range of mediums.	During the term find out about the story of Diwali, Eid or Christmas.	On your way to school and talk about your local environment and road signs you see.

These homework activities are to complete over the Autumn Term at home. You may do as little or many as you wish.

Homework for Year 1 - Autumn 1

English (Communication, Reading and Writing).	Mathematics and Technology (Maths, DT, IT and Science).	Creative Arts (Music, Art and Dance).	Humanities (RE, Geography, History and Philosophy).
			
Find out amazing facts about your body and share your knowledge with someone.	Count how many trees are losing their leaves as you travel home.	Create an autumn collage using leaves, twigs and other materials.	Find out what vehicles you could use to travel to Birmingham and beyond. Y
Write some facts, in sentences, about two different senses.	How many ways can you make 5 using 2 numbers? Now, try making 10. Can you think of a creative way to represent this?	Find a piece of music and move like a firework to it.	Design a model vehicle. Label your design, using the following key words: wheels windows seats chassis axle doors
Find an unusual object, fruit or vegetable and describe it using all of your senses. Make a list of the adjectives you used to describe it.	Collect different leaves from the trees you passed and sort them into different sets e.g. evergreen, deciduous, pointy, rounded ...	Create a rap about your favourite fairy tale character and perform it to the class.	Write about what made Guy Fawkes famous.
Draw two different characters from your favourite fairy tale. Now, compare them. How are they similar? How are they different?	Compare trees from summer and autumn. What has changed? Which do you prefer and why?	Change the words to 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star' and perform it to your class. Can you think of new actions, too?	Use different media to create a firework picture. Which one did you like using the best?

Homework for Year 4 - Autumn 2

Ensure you continue to read daily and practice your times tables regularly. Remember that by the end of Year 4 you need to know up to your 12x tables.

English (Communication, Reading and Writing).	Mathematics and Technology (Maths, DT, IT and Science).	Creative Arts (Music, Art and Dance).	Humanities (Geography, History and Philosophy).
Imagine that you are stranded on a desert island. Can you write a diary entry to share your experience?	Make a poster for a child in Year 3 detailing how to complete column addition and column subtraction.	Cook a traditional dish from a European country. Take a picture of it when you have completed it.	What is friendship and why is it so important? Explain your answer with some reasons.
Choose a poem, practise it and then perform it in front of your class.	Make a 3D model of a landmark that is in Europe.	Choose any Christmas song and create a dance to complement it. The dance must be at least 30 seconds long.	Create an advert for a holiday destination in Europe.
Choose a character from a book that you would most like to be like and explain why.	Create your own animation using scratch online (https://scratch.mit.edu/)	Learn a song in a European language (e.g. Frere Jacques) and perform in front of your class.	Create a map of your own island. Label the features.
Imagine that you are in a European country. Write a postcard home telling them what you have seen, what you have eaten and what your favourite part has been.	Design your own burglar alarm. Label the features and consider how electricity is used for that device.	Design your own flag which represents a country of your choice.	Can kindness change the world? Is it good to be kind to everyone? Discuss this with somebody at home and tell us about your opinion.

● Multimedia Platforms:

- Videos to support learning -
 - i.e demonstrate a method to consolidate learning in maths:
 - Set a new task / challenge;
- Google Slides with commentary to explain a homework task (i.e. through the use of Google Classroom/ other app)
- video, powerpoint, Jamboards etc
- editable documents may also be used virtually for setting, completing and handing in homework.

Online Safety

In line with Wheelers Online Safety Policy, teachers will ensure that:

- All activities using the internet, including homework and independent research topics, will be tested first to minimise the risk of exposure to inappropriate material;
- Where appropriate, links to specific websites will be provided instead of open searching for information;

- Students will be taught how to conduct safe searches of the internet and this information will be made available to parents and carers.

Themed Weeks/ Special Events

Each month, additional homework opportunities will be set in line with special events/ themed weeks/ environmental issues through our school newsletter.

Celebrating Homework

At Wheelers Lane, we recognise, value and celebrate all children's effort in completing homework tasks, regardless of outcome.

Each week, class teachers will be encouraged to designate quality time to share and celebrate children's homework; offering appropriate verbal feedback and praise.

At the end of each term, children will be awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates follows:

I.e. - **Bronze** - 10 pieces of good quality homework

Silver - 20 pieces of good quality homework

Gold - 30 pieces of good quality homework

There will also be special **Homework Heroes** certificates awarded to one child from each class at the end of each term, from a range of ability levels. This award will recognise outstanding effort and creativity as well as presentation.

Each term, class teachers will showcase work from a range of ability levels within their classes, some of which will be selected for the whole school display in the library area outside Mrs Pecheur's office.

With permission, our winners will be published on our school website, termly newsletter and our school twitter page.