



Homer First School and Nursery

Homework Policy

Rationale

At Homer First School, we believe that homework is an opportunity for parents/carers to become active partners in supporting learning. Homework can help promote a positive attitude to learning at home and show children that both home and school are working together in partnership. We believe that homework should be enjoyable for the child and should stimulate imagination and creativity, reinforce lessons taught in school and give the opportunity for applying learned skills.

At Homer First School, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest and stimulate imagination and creativity
- To encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, resilience and motivation needed to study away from the school environment
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby fostering an effective partnership between home and school
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school

Homework will be broken into two key elements - **core homework** and **learning projects** .

Research and longitudinal educational studies have shown that homework has very little impact on the progress children make at primary school unless it is reading and the learning of rapid recall facts. What has the most impact is talking to others, sharing ideas, and exploring concepts. These things cannot be shown through the completion of a work sheet, but are ingrained in the quality of conversation that is had in the moment and the reflection that comes from that. Our homework policy is now in line with the research that is recommended from the Educational Endowment Foundation which is an independent educational body that supports educational development of all children.

Core Homework (spellings, times tables, number facts and reading):-

- Reading for Pleasure 5 times a week
- Daily practise of Number Bonds/Times Tables/telling the time (as appropriate to year group)

- Spellings from Common Exception Word lists (tricky words) & Word Lists in KS2; you can find these lists in your child's planner

These pieces of work will not be set weekly by the class teacher, but there is an expectation that all children will be engaging with these regularly. In order to support this, your child can access the multiple websites listed below (some require login details and these can be found in your child's planner).

Reading

At Homer, we want to support all our families to find time to read together. Our aim is for each child to read at home to an adult a minimum of 5 times per week. We have updated our home reading guidelines to allow more flexibility which we hope will assist our busy families, this now includes:

- More than one home reading session per weekend will now count towards your child's weekly total.
- More than one home reading session per day will now count towards your child's weekly total

Mathletics <https://login.mathletics.com/>

BBCBitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary#england>

Numbots <https://numbots.com/>

TTRockstars <https://ttrackstars.com/>

Purplemash <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/homer#/>

White Rose Education [1-minute maths app | White Rose Education](#)

Learning Projects

Learning projects invite the children, siblings and parents/carers to spend time together, collaborating and having fun completing the tasks set. Families will have the opportunity to complete a series of tasks that are sent home at the beginning of half term holidays (2-3 times a year). We ask the children to do as many of the suggested ideas as they wish but the list is by no means exhaustive. Families are able to choose when they do the homework and what format the completed work will take so there is flexibility built in for all our families.

Feedback will be given to pupils on their homework in a number of ways:

- Directly from the teacher in the form of verbal feedback
- Peer feedback during sharing/celebration assemblies.
- Marked tests (spelling/times tables etc)

Pupils with SEND

We aim to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of all. We endeavour to adapt any tasks set so that all children can access homework and make progress.

Reading

Sharing and reading practice book:

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Children from Reception and Key Stage 1 will take home a phonetically decodable reading book, progressing to a banded reading book once they are confident readers. They will also select a book from the school library to be their sharing book and bring this home. Children in Key Stage 2 will take home a banded reading book, progressing to 'free readers' once they are confident readers. Children in Key Stage 2 can also select a sharing book from the school library. Children have planners that parents are asked to fill in. Please refer to your child's planner for further information on supporting reading at home.