





Learning together, success forever

Two Boats School

# Homework Policy

This policy was updated by both primary and secondary staff in September 2017. It was shared with the Governing Body on

\_\_\_\_\_.

This policy will be reviewed in September 2019.

## **Homework Policy**

### **Rationale**

"Homework is not an optional extra, but an essential part of a good education." - 1999 *White Paper, Excellence in Schools*

Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. It is important in raising student achievement.

Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school.

Homework enhances pupil learning, improves achievement and develops pupils' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

### **Aims**

Homework enables pupils to:

- consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities
- access resources not available in the classroom
- develop research skills
- have an opportunity for independent work
- show progress and understanding
- provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self discipline
- take ownership and responsibility for learning
- engage parental co-operation and support
- create channels for home school dialogue.

### **Principles of setting homework**

Homework tasks are set which provide pupils with a valuable learning opportunity; consolidation of learning, research of a new topic, development or reinforcement of new skills etc.

Pupils are set a variety of homework tasks appropriate to their age and ability. Sometimes, there will be an element of choice for pupils in the homework task they will complete, as choice is a good motivator for pupils.

Deadlines for homework completion are set and adhered to by staff and pupils.

## Amount of Homework

Homework for each year group is set in line with the school homework timetable. Teachers have the discretion to vary this depending on year group and topic being studied. As a guide approximate times and amounts are given below.

Year Group	Homework Guidelines	Weekly
Reception	Nightly reading	
Years 1 & 2	Nightly reading Weekly spellings and times tables to learn for a weekly test	
Years 3 & 4	Nightly reading Spellings and times tables to learn for a weekly test One piece of maths work	
Years 5 & 6	Nightly reading Spellings and times tables to learn for a weekly test One piece of maths work One piece of literacy work	
Year 7	30 minutes per subject per week	6 hours
Year 8	45 minutes per subject per week	9 hours
Year 9	1 hour per subject per week	12 hours
Year 10	2 hours per subject per week except Citizenship (max. of 1 hour)	15 hours
Year 11	2 hours per subject per week except Science and English which may be 3 hours each as they are worth 2 GCSEs each.	18 hours

## Marking homework and providing feedback

Homework is marked according to the assessment policy. Feedback is given to pupils promptly and highlights what the pupil has done well and how the task could be improved. Time is provided for students to reflect on feedback and take action when appropriate.

Parents will be informed on a termly basis about the quality and completion of their child's homework via Grade Cards for students in the secondary sector and during parents evening for children in the primary sector. Teachers may (via the planner, email, letter or phone call) alert parents of concerns regarding the completion or quality of homework more regularly if they feel it is appropriate.

If a pupil consistently fails to meet expectations regarding homework, teachers will apply appropriate sanctions. This may include requiring the pupil to redo tasks or give up time at break, lunchtime or after school to catch up on work.

Reviewed September 2017

Next Review: September 2019