



John Wheeldon Primary Academy

Homework Guidelines for 2017/2018

Homework in the Early Years Foundation Stage

· Children in EYFS receive activities to complete that support their learning in school. A parent newsletter goes out every Friday detailing what the children have achieved during the week and to make parents aware of the focus for the following week.

- At the beginning of the school year, Parents receive a support pack containing a number strip, and sound mat and a list of how we teach the children to form their letters during Phonics time.
- EYFS pupils receive a reading book on a regular basis for parents to read and discuss with them.
- Children take home a 'sound button' card each week. This encourages the children to learn how to sound and blend.
- To support the teaching of RWI (Read Write Inc scheme), each pupil receives a letter formation sheet to take home each day. This is done daily to support the teaching from that morning.
- Staff in EYFS always make it clear to parents that learning should be fun and that the resources we provide are not meant to be gone through methodically. Lots of small bits of input are better than one very long session.

Key Stage One - Year 1 and Year 2

- Each pupil has a homework book with a different homework topic grid each half term.
- Each grid has a selection of nine homework activities for the children to choose from linked to the current topic and the children are asked to complete a minimum of three pieces of topic homework each half term.
- Every other week the children receive a maths homework sheet related to their maths learning that week.
- In addition, the children are asked to read their reading books as often as possible and to complete their reading diaries. [Some children also receive comprehension sheets to complete with their reading books to extend their learning].
- Each pupil receives a list of spellings to learn linked to the graphemes (combinations of letters) they have been learning that week and also includes a

selection of the common exception words from the KS1 list.

- Ongoing mental arithmetic passports. Children will need to quickly recall key fundamentals of their year group. Class teachers will test children on the key skills.

Lower Key Stage Two - Year 3 and 4

- Children will be provided with a reading book and diary, this needs to be in school every day. As well as reading opportunities during the school day, we ask that you also encourage your child to read at home at least three times a week for a minimum of ten minutes. When this is done, can you please make sure you sign and add comments in their reading diary. Reading books and diaries need to be in school every day. Any lost or damaged reading books may incur a charge.
- Spellings based on the new national curriculum expectations to be practised each week. Children will receive a new spelling list on a Monday and will be tested on the Friday of that week. Each spelling list will be based on a particular rule or pattern. Please ensure these are practised each night in preparation for Friday's test.
- Ongoing mental arithmetic passports. Children will need to quickly recall key fundamentals of their year group. Class teachers will test children on the key skills.
- Alternate Maths and English homework will be set by the class teacher each week on a Friday. These are to be returned by the following Thursday. This will support learning which has taken place in the classroom.
- At least once a term extended homework projects, designed to embrace your child's creativity and independent learning skills, will also be set. Timescales and examples for such projects will be clearly stated in the project instructions.
- Homework instructions will be clearly explained to children so that they are aware of how to complete the task given. Homework will vary slightly among the class, as it will be best suited to your child's ability.

Upper Key Stage Two - Year 5 and Year 6

- We encourage children to read for at least 30 minutes a day. Although there will be opportunities during the school day, we ask that you also encourage your child to read at home. Reading books and diaries need to be in school every day. Any lost or damaged reading books may incur a charge.
- Spellings based on the new national curriculum expectations to be practised each week. Children will receive a new spelling list on a Monday and will be tested on the Friday of that week. Each spelling list will be based on a particular rule or pattern. Please ensure these are practised each night in preparation for Friday's test.

- Ongoing mental arithmetic passports. Children will need to quickly recall key fundamentals of their year group. Class teachers will test children on the key skills.
- Maths and English homework will be set by the class teacher each week. This will support learning which has taken place in the classroom.
- Topic based homework/ projects each term.