



**UNSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**“Together we build Understanding”**



**Unsworth Primary Homework Policy**

This policy is set within the context of our Mission Statement which states that we aim to:

- Provide a stimulating learning environment
- Develop the self - esteem of every child
- Value and promote personal achievement, high standards and respect for all individuals

**Aims**

The aims of homework are to:

- Provide opportunities for parents or carers, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children’s learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents or carers to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- To provide opportunities for children to practise and consolidate basic skills and knowledge with the mathematics and literacy curriculum
- Use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment
- Provide opportunities for individual learning and extending learning based on a child’s particular interests
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and organisational skills needed to study independently.
- Build individuals confidence and support improving pupils attainment across the curriculum
- Promote a life-long love of learning
- Prepare pupils in the skill of personal study for transitioning to high school and beyond

**Principles**

At Unsworth, we recognise homework is an opportunity for teachers, parents and pupils to work together to build the confidence of children with regards to basic key skills, on an individual basis and therefore raising their overall attainment across the curriculum. It is also recognised that extra- curricular activities, play and free time are also an important part of a child’s growth and development and homework commitments should not prevent children from taking part in these.

The following points guide our approach to homework:

- It is regarded as an integral part of the curriculum, which is planned and prepared alongside curriculum topics.
- It is primarily focused on securing pupils’ basic skills in English and Maths and the non-negotiables for that year group
- It can be set in many different forms, with many different expectations and outcomes.
- The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupil’s school career.
- Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child.
- It should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.

- It should be set regularly from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.
- Some activities will be daily, some weekly and others fortnightly. Expectations for each year group will be outlined at the beginning of the academic year. Various activities will be expected to be completed on a weekly basis
- Pupils will be given at least five days to complete extended tasks within maths workbooks and in 'Learning Logs'

### **Responsibilities**

All stakeholders have a responsibility to carry out various duties which are central to our feedback approach:

### **Pupils**

Should be involved through:

- Ensuring that they are aware of homework tasks
- Sharing their homework tasks with people at home
- Completing and returning homework as set out by the class teacher
- Asking for additional support or explanation if they are unsure of how to complete an activity

### **Parents / Carers:**

Should be involved through:

- Supporting the school by ensuring that their child attempts their homework.
- Providing a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- Encouraging and praising their child when they have completed their homework.
- Supporting their child with homework activities.
- Making it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- Addressing any issues or concerns about homework with the class teacher

### **Teaching Staff**

Should be involved through:

- Providing explanations of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and carers give guidance of how they might assist their child.
- At times providing children the opportunity to choose from Enquiry homework depending upon their interests.
- Ensuring homework can be completed in a reasonable amount of time and is not too onerous for the pupil or family members
- Ensuring a range of curriculum areas are reflected over the year in 'Learning Logs'. One history, one geography, one science and one other curriculum area should be covered approximately each half term
- Setting up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- Ensuring that homework is set in accordance with the school policy
- Ensuring any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- Rewarding and praising children for completing homework tasks
- Providing opportunities for pupils to share their learning with others.

- Ensuring homework is marked.
- Providing homework specific to the individual needs of the pupil
- Ensuring any homework is well matched to the ability of each pupil and has been adapted to meet the needs of specific pupils
- Identifying pupils who may need additional organisational support to complete activities that have been set
- Providing opportunities for pupils to access any ICT that may be needed to complete homework activities
- Addressing any homework concerns with pupils, parents or senior leaders

### **Senior Leaders**

- Feedback on strengths in practice and areas for development
- Monitor the effectiveness of policy and guidelines on pupil's progress over time, conduct work scrutiny, pupil learning conversations, and informal surveys

### **Homework Club**

Several days of the week, a homework club is provided after school for some pupils, which is delivered by specific teaching assistants. Attendance of homework club is by invitation only and is dependent upon individual pupil's specific needs.

#### **Pupils attending homework club can expect:**

- A personalised experience that feels distinctly different to completing activities during the day, within the classroom
- access to drinks / snack to eat while completing their homework or prior to starting
- a dedicated space to complete homework
- a clear routine based around the club eg days, time, place, member of staff, location and resources that are available.
- an adult to talk through their homework with and to support them as they work in case they have any questions
- access to a range of equipment, which can be accessed independently by the child.
- A personalised experience that feels distinctly different to completing activities during the day, within the classroom
- Tasks will be able to be completed in the time allocated

### **Homework Tasks**

Listed below for each phase of Unsworth Primary School, are a number of examples tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to change, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupil involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development. The following times can be used as guidelines for the amount of time pupils should be expected to spend on completing fortnightly 'Learning Log' activities:

- KS1 30 minutes
- Lower KS2 (Y3 and Y4) 45 minutes
- Upper KS2 (Y5 and Y6) 60 minutes

## Reception

These may include:

- Reading – Home Reading books, Library books, high frequency words
- Phonic activities - letter formation, segmentation
- Half term diaries
- Special events activities
- Wow Stars – PSHE
- Activity boxes

## Year 1 and 2

- Reading – Bug Club, Home Reading books and key words
- Learning spellings
- Maths activity packs
- Abacus Online Maths
- Learning Logs – researching topics to answer enquiry questions or providing opportunities for pupils to reinforce or apply their understanding

## Year 3 and 4

- Reading – Bug Club, Home Reading books and key words
- Learning Spellings (Lower KS2 set of High Frequency Words)
- Abacus Online Maths
- Maths work books
- Learning Logs - researching topics to answer enquiry questions or providing opportunities for pupils to reinforce or apply their understanding

## Year 5 and 6

- Reading – Bug Club, Home Reading books
- Learning Spellings (Upper KS2 set of High Frequency Words)
- Abacus Online Maths
- Maths work books
- Learning Logs - researching topics to answer enquiry questions or providing opportunities for pupils to reinforce or apply their understanding

**NB Children will not receive negative consequences such as detention from the teacher for not completing homework. However if this is a regular occurrence then the class teacher will speak to parents or carers to enquire if there are any specific barriers preventing the child from completing tasks set at home and to help identify additional support that may be needed.**

Policy compiled by W Sinclair  
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Reviewed by W Sinclair & T Ali June 2017