

# Brough Primary School

## Homework Policy



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| <b>Policy Date</b>            | <b>October 2022</b> |
| <b>Policy Review Date</b>     | <b>October 2024</b> |
| <b>Lead Person for Policy</b> | <b>Mr S Mearns</b>  |

## **Brough Primary School – Homework**

### **What is homework?**

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Brough Primary School, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see a limited programme of homework as one way of developing this partnership. We do however recognise the latest research, which suggests homework set by school alone, does not always fully support a child's educational development. Research suggests activities like, walking, talking, visiting attractions or places of interest, provide a wealth of experiences from which children gain a wide range of educationally valuable experiences from which to draw on as they work and play both in and out of school. By setting a limited programme of homework, we hope that time will be available in the family home to provide these rich experiences which can help shape young lives.

### **Homework at our school**

We limit the amount of homework set to basic skills in reading, writing and maths, preferring to free up time at home to enable all parents to provide the experiences young children need as they grow through their formative years. We do occasionally set tasks linked to topic work which may involve family members in producing a model or a research project linked to their topic.

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on the tasks we do set, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice. We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives such as those through Times Tables Rock Stars; children are not punished if they fail to complete the work.

### **Our routines and expectations**

All classes give out homework on a Friday. If it is a piece that needs handing in or is linked to learning spellings for a test in school, it is expected to be completed by the following Tuesday.

The work is nearly always on-going work on spellings (which could be children's individual phase spellings and/or the statutory spellings in Key Stage 2) or times tables in mathematics, although there are occasions when some work linked to topic may be set, such as making a model of an Anderson Shelter in our Year 5 Second World War Topic.

Where appropriate, there should be a clear explanation/reminder from the teacher of what is expected. In Key Stages 1 and 2 each child has a home reading record, and a homework book for work linked to spelling.

### **Broadly speaking these are our current expectations:**

EYFS – Regular home reading with an adult (to include ebooks from the Big Cat Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised library). Occasionally an additional task may be set which will be a shared task between adult and child.

Years 1 and 2

Regular home reading with an adult (to include ebooks from the Big Cat Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised library). In Year 1, weekly Friday homework consists of reading and spelling tasks linked to phonics and the common exception words from the National Curriculum. In Year 2, spellings are linked to the statutory spellings for Key Stage 1 (including the Year 2 common exception words). Children are encouraged to use Times Table Rock Stars once multiplication has been covered (from the spring term onwards). Periodically, later in the year, occasional tasks may be set for Year 1 in preparation for the Phonics Screening Check and for Year 2 in preparation for the Key Stage 1 Standard Assessment Tests (including maths and reading comprehension tasks).

Years 3 and 4 – regular home reading with an adult, using the home reading books and reading records; weekly times tables consisting of Times Tables Rock Stars. Statutory spellings are set weekly with a range of activities over each half term. Occasionally, tasks may be set linked to topic work – such as model making or research. Occasionally, longer tasks may be set in preparation for the Multiplication Tables Check in Year 4.

Years 5 and 6 – regular home reading with an adult using the home reading books; weekly times tables consisting of Times Tables Rock Stars. Statutory spellings are set with a range of activities over each half term. A maths and GPS task is set each week, linked to work going on in class. Occasionally, tasks may be set linked to topic work – such as model making or research. Occasionally, additional homework may be set linked to specific spelling patterns and SATs practice guides are encouraged for Year 6.

Where homework is recorded in their book, we ask children to maintain the same standards of presentation in homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil (black pen in English from Year 4 upwards).

### Statutory Testing in Year 2 and 6

Children in Year 2 and Year 6 may receive additional homework activities linked to the statutory tests. Further information will be given at information evenings over the year.

### **What to do if you require further information**

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently, please talk with your child's teacher(s) in the first instance.

If you still have concerns, please contact one of the Phase Leaders: Miss Perry in EYFS, Miss Fraser in Key Stage 1, Mr Mearns for Year 3, 4 and 5 and Mrs Wilson for Year 6.

Mr S. Mearns

October 2022