

# Somerville Primary School



## Homework Policy

Updated: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## **Somerville Primary School Homework Policy**

### **Introduction**

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support childrens' learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

### **The role of parents**

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing. If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher

### **Rationale**

We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school alone can provide and believe children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed, we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning. Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment but we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development and while homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that are available and which also play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school but we believe they only develop their skills, interests and talents to the full when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

## ***Homework Expectations***

### ***Foundation Stage***

We encourage the children to read by giving them books to take home to read with their parents. We give guidance information to parents to help them achieve the maximum benefit from this time spent reading with their child. Key words and phonic mats will also be given to the children to take home.

### ***Key Stage 1***

We encourage the children to read by giving them books to take home to read with their parents. We also ask Key Stage 1 children to learn 10 spellings each week. In year 2 they will also be given times tables homework.

### ***Years 3 and 4***

Children will be given 12 spellings a week to learn. It is expected that children will read a **minimum** of three times a week to an adult at home but nightly reading would be preferable and more beneficial. Times table and division facts will also be sent home on a regular basis.

### ***Years 5 and 6***

Children will be given 15-20 spellings a week to learn.  
Maths every week focussing on key skills – marked in class.  
Reading daily from reading book, if still on the reading scheme this will preferably be to an adult.

In addition to above all children will be given a reading for pleasure book with regular opportunities to change it. On occasion other types of homework may be set, for example, Grammar Bug or Timestables Rockstars online learning tasks may be directed, family tasks e.g baking may be suggested etc.

No homework will be marked however it will be monitored. Children will be tested on spellings and timetables - marks will be recorded.

