
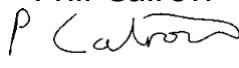




Meadowside Community Primary & Nursery School

Part of The Challenge Academy Trust

Homework Policy

Policy Written By	School
Policy Updated	Jan 2023
Reviewed & Agreed by Governors	Feb 2023
Next Review	Jan 2025
Head Teacher	Stuart Wright 
Chair of Governors	Phil Calrow 

Version	Date	Action
V1	Dec 2020	New homework policy aligned to new curriculum Approved by Governing Body
V2	Feb 2023	Updated to reflect online learning

'Where Learners Grow'

Writing and Reviewing Policy and Guidance

The Homework Policy relates to other policies including:

- Curriculum policy
- Marking and Feedback policy

This policy considered key recommendations drawn from the guidance report, '[Working with Parents to Support Children's Learning](#)', first published in 2018, informed by an evidence review commissioned by the EEF.

1. Introduction

Research has shown that the completion of homework has a very positive and significant effect on children's achievement and embeds positive learning habits. At Meadowside Community Primary School, we believe in the concept of lifelong learning and the idea that both adults and children learn new things every day. We maintain that learning should be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone and this policy aims to ensure our home learning provision is no different. Through our teaching, we equip children with the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to be able to make informed choices about the important things in their lives and help to prepare them for the future. We believe that appropriate teaching and learning experiences help children to become successful learners and to lead happy and rewarding lives. These learning experiences will contribute to their everyday practice of teaching and learning, leading to truly inspirational lessons, which evidence accelerated progress for children. We strongly believe that working together equals success.

2. Aims

At Meadowside CP & Nursery School we aim to aid each child's progress towards achieving his or her full potential with the assistance, support and cooperation of parents. By setting homework on a weekly basis and on an increasing ratio, from Nursery to Yr 6, we are preparing children for the demands and responsibilities of secondary school and life thereafter.

3. Objectives

At Meadowside CP & Nursery School we see homework as an opportunity to:

- support the children to develop a love of reading
- consolidate work completed in school
- prepare children for the work to come and their future in high school
- develop children's research skills by encouraging them to use libraries, the internet and a range of other resources
- provide opportunities for individualised work, encouraging independent learning
- provide structured opportunities for parental involvement and support
- provide information for parents about the on-going work of the class

- encourage the children to develop a sense of ownership and responsibility for learning
- develop good habits such as self-efficacy and self-discipline in learning
- train pupils in planning and organising their time

4. What is Homework like in EYFS and KS1?

Work will be set weekly on Class Dojo. Children will be given a homework book at the start of the year to keep at home - activities can be either completed in the book or using an online worksheet that has been uploaded. Each week the homework set will incorporate:

- Spellings
- Maths activities
- Words of the Week (Word Warriors)
- Reading

When the children complete their homework, they must upload a picture of their work from their homework book, or complete the online worksheet, or record and upload a video of a verbal response to the homework back into their ClassDOJO portfolio. Children will be supported in class to enable them to be adept at achieving this expectation. Parents of younger children are supported with how to do this by providing them with self-help videos/crib sheets and staff will provide extra support if needed.

Spellings are sent out each week and the weekly spelling test is completed in school in the Reading Diary so parents can see how their children are progressing and provide more spelling practice where necessary.

All activities are set to consolidate previous learning and help to reinforce knowledge and skills. There may also be research and project work set during holidays to excite and hook the children into their new learning.

Children are expected to read daily at home; from their 'reading book' three times per week and their 'reading for pleasure book' on the other days. **Children and parents must respond to the brief daily questions in their Reading Diary about what they have read.** The children should become more independent in their responses as they move through Key Stage 1.

5. What is Homework like in KS2?

Work will be set weekly on Mirodo. Children will be given a homework book at the start of the year so that activities/note-making can be completed in this book. Each week the homework set will incorporate two mini quizzes (usually 10 questions) from the following curriculum areas:

- Writing
- Reading Skills
- Maths

By using this approach, all of the children will be given instant feedback about their performance which will help to build their confidence and address any misconceptions. Class teachers will then be able to use this performance data to inform their future teaching.

All activities are set to consolidate previous learning and help to reinforce knowledge and skills. There may also be research and project work set during holidays to excite and hook the children into their new learning.

All the children have accounts for other Reading and Maths online activities such as Lexia and TT Rockstars which help to supplement their independent home learning.

At Meadowside we recognise the need for children to adopt a balanced approach to their out of school activities. We appreciate the value of extra-curricular activities (sport, music, dance, drama, other hobbies, etc.) and believe that a well-balanced, healthy child should be encouraged to develop their own particular interests in as many of these activities as possible. Therefore, we attempt to balance the amount of homework given to children with their other out of school commitments.

Children are expected to read daily at home; from their 'reading book' three times per week and their 'reading for pleasure book' on the other days. **Children in Y3 & Y4 must respond to the brief daily questions in their Reading Diary about what they have read.** The children should respond to these questions independently.

6. Parents as Partners

At Meadowside, we value the important role that parents play as co-educators of their child. We ask our parents to:

- Allow your child to 'have a go' by themselves
- Encourage a regular routine, and good study habits
- Encourage a love of reading by reading with and reading to their children
- Show an interest and encouragement
- Quality matters more than quantity

Parents are welcome to discuss any matters regarding homework with their child's class teacher on a formal or informal basis. Messages are also encouraged via the online platform of Class Dojo, which can be answered directly and privately by the teacher. Suggestions on how parents can help their children at home will be discussed at parents' evenings and our basic skills parent meetings.

As the primary educators of their children, parents are encouraged to support and reinforce the shared expectations by as many means as possible. Learning is a shared responsibility between children, parents, teachers and teaching assistants. Children are encouraged and challenged in their learning as they aim for excellence. In order to achieve this goal, we at Meadowside, work with parents and carers as a partnership, expanding the curriculum, extending the curriculum into the home and building on experiences shared outside the school.

If a child fails to complete her/his homework we will enlist parental support and have conversations during hometime or make phone calls/messages via Class DOJO. If a pupil repeatedly does not complete homework at home, the Welfare Team and SLT may also get involved. If necessary, we will ensure a child completes their home learning in school, which may mean that they complete work during break or lunch times or during an afterschool club.

7. Homework Expectations

All children at Meadowside CP & Nursery are given homework regularly.

Nursery 2s- Activities sent home via Class Dojo which encourage oral language development as this is the foundation for reading. Book bags are also available to share 'real books' at home. Challenges are posted online with a focus on letter sounds, creativity and investigations of the natural environment.

Nursery 3s- Activities sent home via Class Dojo which encourage Speech & Language and Listening & Attention, using ideas from Wellcomm Big Book of Ideas and Early Talk Boost. Reading books are sent home with videos modeling dialogic book talk. Activities will also be posted to encourage independent and personal skills.

Reception- Activities are based around a different area of learning and we expect home reading as a minimum of 3 times a week. We also give out phase 2/3 sounds and high frequency words as the children become ready for them.

Year 1- A maths activity is posted each week alongside phonics tricky words and our Word Warriors words of the week. We expect children to read at home at least 3 x a week and reading books are changed more if needed. On days that they are not reading their reading book, they should read a book for pleasure with an adult. This can be read with or to the pupil. They should respond in their reading records.

Year 2- A maths activity is posted each week alongside key spellings to consolidate knowledge of Phase 6 in Letters and Sounds. 5 'Word Warriors' words are sent home for children to practise orally and apply in their spoken language. On days that they are not reading their reading book, they should read a book for pleasure with an adult. This can be read with or to the pupil. They should respond in their reading records.

KS2 – All children must complete two mini-quizzes every week using the Mirodo Learning Platform. We expect children to read a minimum of 3 times a week and a short comment about their understanding of the text written in their reading record book.

Homework is posted on a Friday and expected back on a Wednesday. All children are expected to complete their homework (at home) and if it is late, they will complete during school time. A high standard of presentation is also expected in their homework book and children will be challenged if it is of an unacceptable standard.

There is a minimum expectation to read 3 times a week. A reading record book is given to all children in the school for parents to sign. There is a reading scheme throughout the school and children are assessed termly to ensure they are reading at the correct level. Children will move levels if they have fluency in reading with a matching level of comprehension. Where a child has fluency but lack of understanding (maybe due to SEND issues) moving a child up a level will be carefully considered by the Class Teacher. This may lead to reading at two levels, one for fluency and a lower level for comprehension. On the days where a child isn't reading their reading book it is an expectation that they will read a book for pleasure with an adult. In Y3 and Y4, children should respond to questions about the book in their reading records.

Parents who persistently do not read with their child will be challenged and a letter will be sent home reminding them of the schools' policy and if required a meeting will be held with the head teacher or deputy head teacher. As a school, we will do everything we can to support home learning and to develop a lifelong love of reading.

As a school we may offer additional online home learning programmes and encourage children to access these independently. These will support maths and English and offer programmes that are tailored to meet the unique individual needs of every child.

In EYFS and KS1, the marking of homework will be conducted on ClassDOJO in line with the agreed Marking and Feedback policy.

8. Monitoring and Review

A copy of the Homework policy is published on our school website. The homework is reviewed every 2 years, or earlier if curriculum changes are needed to be made.