



Poverest
Primary School

HOMEWORK
POLICY



Homework Policy

OUR VISION

There is little in life as valuable as your child's education. At Poverest our vision is to be a premier provider of high quality care and education for children in the local community.

OUR SCHOOL AIMS

In partnership with parents, staff and the wider community, we aim to:

- Provide a happy, safe and secure environment for our children
- Create a stimulating climate in which effective learning can take place
- Have consistently high expectations and match these with quality resources, teaching and learning skills
- Provide a range of educational and social experiences appropriate to the age, ability and needs of our pupils and promote a professional learning environment
- Create opportunities for every individual in the school community to develop his or her maximum potential.
- Adopt a philosophy of continuous improvement in every aspect of the school's work and life.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide all pupils with the same standard of education and care that we would wish for our own children.

THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important, since it gives pupils the opportunity to practise and consolidate at home the tasks done in class, and helps them work towards improving important skills. It also encourages children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school and, later, in adult life.

Homework activities are an important part of the home/school partnership.

All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

The Homework Policy is Designed:

1. To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
2. To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
3. To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the pupils.
4. To extend and support learning.
5. To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.

TIME ALLOCATIONS

It is expected that children will spend at least the following times on Homework activities:

Reception

10 minutes per night: reading and a weekly task.

Year 1

10-15 minutes per night: reading, once a week a maths, literacy or topic activity, weekly spellings and tables to learn.

Year 2

15-20 minutes reading per night, maths activity, spellings and tables and learning letters and sounds if appropriate.

Key Stage 2

20 minutes reading per night

Spellings each week

Maths and Literacy each week, given out on Thursdays.

This is in line with the Government's recommended time allocation, based on current good practice, as set out in Homework: Guidelines for Primary Schools and Secondary Schools.

DFE suggested time allocation for homework:

Years 1 and 2: 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4: 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes per day

HOW STAFF AT POVEREST SUPPORT THIS POLICY:

- by providing a range of differentiated homework tasks and activities to consolidate and extend learning in class;
- by ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability;
- by communicating with parents and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics to be studied, and their child's individual targets.
- by marking each piece of homework set before another piece of homework is given and ensuring children are given the opportunity to respond to marking.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP TO SUPPORT CHILDREN:

- provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets;
- provide a suitable place, equipped with a comfortable chair, clear table space, good light;
- provide encouragement and support to children when they require it;
- support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning;
- encourage pupils and praise them when homework is completed;
- be actively involved in the homework of younger children in particular;

PUPILS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- make full use of all the opportunities they are presented with;
- tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude;
- take pride in presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected;
- be organised so that necessary books and equipment are not left at school;
- take responsibility for handing in the completed task on the agreed day.
- In order to allow for the child's other activities at least two nights will always be provided to complete homework (unless advised otherwise by the class teacher).

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND THE MORE ABLE LEARNER

Throughout the school the planning of homework tasks will take into account the needs of children with special educational needs and those who are achieving at a higher level. Careful planning will ensure that the level of demand is appropriate to all ability levels.

FEEDBACK FOR PUPILS, PARENTS OR CARERS AND TEACHERS

It is important that feedback is given to pupils as quickly as possible. This is given in a number of ways:

- immediately by parents or carers;
- discussion in class where homework is a part of the class work;
- through tests such as tables or spellings;
- individual comment from teacher on written assignments;
- pupils reviewing the work done in small groups;
- presentation of homework in class and school assemblies.

Teachers are interested to know how children carried out activities, whether they were too hard/ too easy/ interesting, etc. The reading record book is an ideal place for parents, carers and teachers to record any comments. Parents may also comment on whether the time allocation was appropriate or whether they feel that the activity was too short/too long. As with all school activity, parents are invited to discuss any queries with their child's class teacher.

EXPECTATIONS

Our expectation is that the work children do at home is of the same standard as they produce in school. For example, writing should be joined using pencil or blue handwriting pen (not biro) if they have a pen licence. All work must be dated. Every completed and marked piece of homework will be kept in a ring binder provided by the school. This should be taken home every Friday in order to complete the homework set by the class teacher. These should be brought back in by the Wednesday of the following week (or other agreed date) in order for the teacher to mark the pieces of work and give feedback to the child.

HOMEWORK AND THE REWARDS SYSTEM:

Children at Poverest should receive written homework on a stipulated day
EYFS - Friday
Key Stage 1 – Thursday.
Key Stage 2 - Thursday.

Children are expected to submit this, on a set day –
EYFS - Friday
Key Stage 1 – Wednesday.
Key Stage 2 - Wednesday.

These days should not change unless otherwise communicated to parents. Therefore:

- If a child is ill, it is their responsibility to collect homework that is missed and negotiate with the class teacher when to hand this in,
- If a child has difficulty with any part of the homework, it is expected that they come and approach the class teacher as soon as possible or, any other member of the staff for help before handing in the task without an attempt being made. If homework is difficult parents can write to the teacher in the homework diary outlining the difficulty.
- If homework is lost – it is the child’s responsibility to ask the teacher for another homework sheet(s).

MANAGEMENT OF HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES

Core subject leaders will scrutinise the homework being set by each class teacher on a half termly basis. This will ensure consistency across the school and that the policy agreed by all staff members is being followed.

Signed:

Date: