



Home Learning Policy

Collingwood School

Introduction

At Collingwood School, we take pride in our home-school partnership and as part of this we ensure that home learning (homework) is clearly in place to consolidate and develop children's learning.

Homework can be an important part of a child's education, and a way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents/carers. It also helps develop children as independent learners.

We also acknowledge the importance 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.

See Appendix 1 for a current overview and timetable.

Aims

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Use home learning and home-based tasks as tools 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 parents/carers, pupils and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- Practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Maths and English.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.

Definitions and Expectations

Homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. When expecting and setting homework, there are several points to consider:

- The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupil's school career.
- The 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.



- Homework should not cause undue stress to the pupil, family or the teacher.
- Homework will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
- Homework should be set regularly from Reception through to Year 6.
- Home-based tasks may be set on pupil devices, such as the school iPads.

Recommended Time Allocation

Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables. It is recommended that for most tasks, pupils should spend no more than 30 minutes. However, occasionally a piece of project work may be set which requires more time to be spent on it. In this instance, the form teacher will allocate several days to the task.

Homework will be optional during school holidays.

Supporting Homework

At Collingwood School, we are keen for parents/carers to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that pupils are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved, as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for pupils to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent/carer is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's class teacher.

School Absence

- If children are absent due to illness, homework will not be sent home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parents/carers will agree what homework should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given.
- Homework will not normally be set when pupils take holidays in term time.

SEND pupils (*pupils with special educational needs or disability*)

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special educational needs or disability, we endeavour to adapt any task set, if necessary, so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Home Learning Tasks

Listed below are several example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these tasks and activities may be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils 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.



Reception:

- Reading books and key words
- Number formation practice
- Handwriting/ letter formation practice
- Identification of shapes in the environment
- Fastening and unfastening buttons and zips and tying shoelaces – getting dressed and undressed, etc.

Key Stage 1

- Reading books and key words
- Learning spellings
- Learning number facts
- English activities
- Maths activities
- Real life problems, e.g. shopping, car, bus and house numbers, reading a menu

Key Stage 2

- Reading
- Learning spellings
- Handwriting practice
- Reading comprehension activities
- Planning pieces of writing
- Planning presentations
- Learning Times Tables
- Learning number facts and number bonds
- Practising calculation strategies learned in class
- Researching topics

Role of the Class Teacher

- To follow the homework timetable and adhere to this policy.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and develops pupils' learning.
- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to pupils and, if necessary, give parental guidance on how they might assist their child. All explanations and any necessary guidance will be given on Google Classroom (from Yr 1 to 6).
- To mark homework within a week of receiving it and give feedback to pupils. Marking may include self-marking, peer marking and/or verbal feedback. Feedback may be given to individual pupils, or to groups of pupils. This includes homework completed on iPads.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.



Role of the Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)

- To monitor compliance of the Policy.
- To discuss with staff how successfully the policy is being implemented.
- To meet with staff to offer further guidance if necessary.
- To meet with parents/carers when appropriate.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the home learning and hands it in on time.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their home task.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To show their child that they value homework and that they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

If parents/carers are unable to support their children (as above) they should contact their child's class teacher in the first instance.

For those children who attend After School Care, there is an option to complete homework tasks under the supervision of the ASC staff.

Version control

Date of adoption of this policy	May 2022
Date of last review of this policy	September 2023
Date for next review of this policy	September 2024
Policy owner (SMT)	Head and Asst Head (T and L)



Appendix 1

Collingwood Home Learning Overview

	Daily Practice	Weekly Tasks	Occasionally
Reception	Reading Word pots 15 minutes	Practical task linked to English or Maths 15 minutes	
KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2)	Reading Spellings 20 minutes	English x 1 or Maths x 1 or Topic x 1 30 minutes per task	Challenge Activities for school holidays
LKS2 (Year 3 and Year 4)	Reading Spellings/Handwriting Times tables 20 minutes	English x 1 Maths x 1 Topic x 1 30 minutes per task	Topic Based Project for school holidays
UKS2 (Year 5 and Year 6)	Reading Spellings Times tables 20 minutes	English x 2 Maths x 2 Topic x 1 30 minutes per task	Topic Based Project for school holidays Or Maths tasks Extra English and Maths for Enrichment Clubs