

Vaughan Primary School

Homework Policy

Date policy last reviewed: Spring 2025

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Statement of intent

At Vaughan Primary School we are committed to preparing our pupils for a happy future. As such we believe that homework plays an important part in education and the benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that our pupils are prepared for their further educational journey.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives and it is important to have that balance between home life and school life. We will give careful consideration to ensuring homework is well-balanced across the school.

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practise and a deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned at school

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Home-school agreement
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy

1. Roles and responsibilities

The Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body will be responsible for:

- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing this policy annually and making appropriate updates as required.
- Discussing the policy with staff.
- Informing new parents about this policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of inclusivity and accessibility of homework.

Year Group Leaders will be responsible for:

- Ensuring all members of staff within their year group are aware of the school's Homework Policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy within their year group and reporting their findings back to the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Teaching and Learning.
- Answering any queries that teaching staff have regarding this policy and the school's practices.

Teachers will be responsible for:

- Planning and setting up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Providing an explanation of homework tasks and ensuring that all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensuring all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Setting homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities.
- Monitoring homework regularly and making sure pupils are completing it.
- Giving feedback to pupils verbally.
- Communicating with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Setting homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensuring homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Rewarding quality work and praising pupils who regularly complete homework.

Parents will be responsible for:

- Supporting and encouraging their child with regards to completing homework.

- Becoming involved in their child's homework and encouraging their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Making sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Providing suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Informing teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operating with the school to find a solution.
- Keeping the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and ability to complete homework effectively.
- Encouraging their child to discuss homework and feedback from teachers.

Pupils will be responsible for:

- Taking responsibility for their own learning and submitting completed work in a timely manner. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will do so with the support of their parents/carers.
- Having a positive approach towards homework.
- Putting the same effort into homework as class work.
- Making sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seeking clarification if required.
- Ensuring that they have everything they need to complete homework.
- Taking pride in the presentation and content of their homework and completing to the best of their abilities.

2. The school's approach to homework

The school understands that setting and providing feedback on homework is a large contributor to the workload of teachers; therefore, year group leaders and teachers will ensure that homework is only set to positively impact pupils' progress.

Prior to homework being set, teachers will ask themselves, 'Why am I setting this homework?' and 'How will this homework be useful to the pupil?' If the answers to these questions do not reflect a positive impact on pupils' learning, teachers will use their professional judgement and decide whether the homework is necessary.

Homework will be uploaded to MS Teams where pupils and parents can view homework tasks. It may sometimes be a paper copy dependent on the work set.

If a teacher has a query, their year group leader will offer guidance and support regarding the school's procedures and liaise with the AHT with responsibility for Teaching and Learning.

Every half term, each year group will be informed of what is expected of them with regards to homework, parents can then choose the relevant number of tasks as per the year group

schedule below from the information provided. Topic homework is due in on Monday of the last week of each half term although pupils can hand in earlier and inform their teachers they have done so. Weekly homework will be due in as per the schedule below.

Feedback from parents about their child's homework will also be welcomed by the school.

The table below shows expected homework by year group. Tasks may be set in addition to the below activities and parents will be informed of these in good time.

Year group	Homework
R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) • Phonics practice (daily) • Maths – weekly – handed in on Wednesdays • Topic – 1 piece minimum each half term
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) – handed in on Mondays • Spelling Seeds (daily) • Maths – weekly – handed in on Wednesdays • Topic – 1 piece minimum each half term
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) – handed in on Mondays • Spelling Seeds (daily) • Maths – weekly – handed in on Wednesdays • Topic – 1 piece minimum each half term • Times Tables – self led
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) – handed in on Mondays • Spelling Seeds (daily) • MyMaths – weekly • Topic – 1 piece minimum each half term • Times Tables Rockstars – 2 challenges a half term
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) – handed in on Mondays • Spelling Seeds (daily) • MyMaths – weekly • Topic – 1 piece minimum each half term • Times Tables Rockstars – 2 challenges a half term
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) – handed in on Mondays • Spelling Seeds (daily) • MyMaths – weekly • Topic (History/Geography/Science) – 2 piece minimum each half term • Times Tables Rockstars – self led

6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading roots (5 days) – handed in on Mondays • Spelling Seeds (daily) • English – weekly • Maths – set task/My Maths (alternate weeks) • Topic (History/Geography/Science) – 2 piece minimum each half term • Times Tables Rockstars – self led • Any additional work in preparation for KS2 SATs
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3. Pupils who fail to complete homework

All pupils will be expected to complete homework on time as per the above schedule.

Teachers will keep records of pupils completing homework which are regularly checked.

If pupils fail to complete homework, teachers may contact parents to find what the reason for this is.

The Home School Agreement, agreed as a contract with the school and signed by parents on their child's admission clearly states;

- Parents/Carers – support my child in their homework and complete the homework diary (Juniors) and sign the reading log (Reception to Year 5).
- Pupil – do my class work and homework as well as I can

If there are exceptional reasons for children not completing the homework please let the teacher know by using the class inbox email address. For the younger pupils, we hope that encouragement from home and school will be sufficient to ensure the completion of the homework. If homework is not completed, and no good reason is given by parents/carers then there will be a loss of golden time, in school. This is for all pupils from Year 1 – Year 5. Teachers may contact individual parents if homework is regularly missed on at least 2 occasions in a half term (this includes spellings and home reading not being completed). Non-completion of homework will be logged and recorded on your child's report.

Year 6

In preparation for Secondary school, teachers in Year 6 will monitor the completion of homework throughout the year. It will be noted on your child's report, if they fail to do the following:

- Homework not completed to the expectation and standard of class work
- Failure to submit homework set on the online learning platform MS Teams or other format on at least 2 occasions in a half term (this includes spellings and home reading not being completed) with no parental explanation using the class inbox email address

If homework has been set on the learning platform MS Teams, the expectation is that the work will be uploaded by the following day after the homework was expected in.

Pupils who are blatantly disregarding school policy will need to complete a homework detention with a Senior Leader during the school day.

An important part of Vaughan Primary School's Homework Policy is to not only give pupils personal responsibility for learning beyond the classroom but also to prepare them for the transition to Secondary school where the volume of homework will increase and sanctions will be in place for non-compliance with homework expectations.

We hope that the measures outlined above will be used on a minimal amount of occasions.

General points to note:

- If pupils are absent due to illness we will expect the half termly homework to be handed in when they are well and for spelling and reading homework to be handed in when they return. If a pupil is away for the week we would not expect reading or spellings to be completed as we will assume they are too unwell to complete it
- If a pupil is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, for an operation etc, there is no expectation to complete the homework as we will assume they are too unwell to do so. Reading and spelling will also not be sent home on these occasions.
- The school will not give homework when parents take holidays or have requested leave of absences in term time.
- Vaughan Primary School's Homework Policy does not extend to preparation for 11+ exams. Parents will have to seek extra-curricular tuition and resources outside of school.

4. Marking homework

Homework will be checked by the teacher and any misconceptions addressed with pupils either individually or in small groups – this will not be in the form of written feedback. For spellings it will be checked they have been practised and reading roots completed.

In general, topic homework will be shared with classes during the last week of each half term and celebrated with pupils as part of whole class achievement sessions.

5. Pupils with SEND

A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the pupil's parents and the SENCO.

Where appropriate, the school will set adjusted or specific tasks for pupils with SEND.

Pupils with SEND will be supported in accordance with the school's SEND Policy.

6. Equal opportunities

The school will ensure that it provides the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, sex, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background.

All pupils will have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

7. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team.

Any updates to this policy will be shared with parents, pupils and staff.

The scheduled review date for this policy is September 2025.