

## Policy for Homework

### Rationale

Homework is considered to be an important and integral part of education at William Austin Junior School. We set a 5 minute daily maths and English task (which includes spellings) and a weekly open ended Learning Log task. Children are expected to read their reading book on a daily basis and also learn their multiplication tables and spelling patterns they have been working on during the week.

### Aims

- to enable pupils to practise the learning from the lessons taught during the week;
- to allow pupils to use a range of resources to extend their knowledge e.g. using computers, the internet, reference books etc;
- to encourage creativity in methods of presentation and display;
- to allow more-able children to extend the work further to their level of ability;
- to encourage parents to be more involved in their child's learning and to sign their work;
- to promote enthusiasm for homework.

### Learning Logs

- Pupils are provided with a Learning Log book and plastic cover. Pupils are encouraged to take care of this book
- The Learning Log task is set on Wednesday by the class teacher for completion by the following Monday
- The focus for the Learning Log task will change weekly and include the different curriculum subjects taught in that year. It should have a Literacy basis and encourage writing across the curriculum; tasks should not be purely colouring activities.
- When appropriate, a list of Success Criteria should be provided so that pupils and parents know what to include in the work
- Each task should be a minimum of a page, but pupils are encouraged to add additional information using extra sheets or flaps if they wish
- The task is open-ended and could start with "To show what you know about..."
- Pupils should be encouraged to produce work of a good standard and to be creative and teachers may wish to share examples of completed tasks with their class/set. The school shop provides appropriate resources
- Some pupils will receive a differentiated task

### Marking and feedback in Learning Logs

- Teachers will give verbal praise to pupils for the work done and the effort shown
- Lower School teachers will assess the tasks and award grades for the effort shown using the traffic light system: green = good, orange = satisfactory, red = not good enough / poor
- Upper School teachers will award a grade for completed work and the effort shown: A = very good, B = good, C = satisfactory, D = not good enough / poor
- Feedback about the quality of homework will be shared with parents where necessary

### Consequences of not completing homework on time

- Pupils who do not hand their work in on time may be asked to complete it during lunchtime or breaktime
- Each year group has a My maths lunchtime club for pupils to complete their homework
- Class/set teachers/Family Workers will contact parents and carers to enquire about missing homework
- Parents will be notified of any pupils who persistently do not hand in their homework
- We expect all work to be presented clearly - teachers will ask a pupil to repeat work which is not of an acceptable standard
- We provide a homework club for identified pupils who may find it difficult to complete their homework

## Outcomes

- Pupils will enjoy their homework tasks
- Pupils will have an opportunity to practice what they have learned that week in class
- Pupils will be able to complete tasks to their own level of ability
- More able pupils will be challenged to extend the tasks set

## Additional tasks to be done at home

### Reading:

- Daily reading is considered essential to promote fluency and understanding which is fundamental to all learning
- We expect all pupils to be heard to read at home by an adult for at least ten minutes daily and have their reading card signed
- Parents and carers are asked to encourage their children, listen to them read as often as possible and talk about the stories being read
- Pupils who have not been heard read by an adult at home will be given an opportunity to read during playtime to a member of staff

### Multiplication Tables:

We use the Times Table Rock Stars online programme to learn multiplication tables. Parents are expected to ensure that their child practises multiplication and related division facts regularly. There are regular tests during the week in class, including opportunities to compete against other classes and pupils, making this a competitive activity.

### My Maths:

For all year groups there is an online maths task children can complete using the My Maths website.

### Spelling:

The children are expected to learn any spellings patterns they have been working on during that week. Children will be given a weekly test in class; Monday for Y6, Wednesday for Y5 and Y4, Tuesday for Y3.

Holiday Projects: Holiday projects are set for half term/end of term holidays. These are arts based projects that may involve 3D models which can be displayed in the hall.

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Headteacher on an annual basis.

Policy updated:            October 2019

Staff responsible:         Jo Adams

This policy was ratified by the Governing body on:        30<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body: \_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ (printed)