

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.
- 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
- 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 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 practise 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 record 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
- If pupils are not completing 10 minutes of daily reading on a regular basis, parents will be contacted and offered support to ensure this happens
- There may be an additional task linked to a SEND pupil's Individual Educational Plan (IEP)

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.

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.

Holiday Projects: Holiday projects are set for half term/end of term holidays. These are arts-based projects that may involve 3D models which are displayed in the hall in our homework gallery which pupils view on Citizenship Days

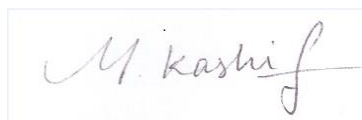
This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the Headteacher on an annual basis.

Policy updated: September 2023

Staff responsible: Jo Adams

This policy was ratified by the Governing Body on: 13th September 2023

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body:



(signature)

M. Kashif - Chair of Governors

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