Leesland C of E Federation

Homework Policy

"Two Schools, One Vision"

Approval By:	Learning Committee
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Review Approved (signature):	EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER
	ON BEHALF OF GOVERNING BODY
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*Through our core Christian values, we aim to create an environment in which everybody feels **loved** enough to aspire to greatness, **respected** enough to build a community locally and globally, and **gracious** enough to include everyone on our journey to achieve a bright future for everyone.*

HOMEWORK POLICY

At Leesland C of E Federation, we believe that education is a life-long process. A child's education does not cease when he / she leaves our school premises, learning at home is an essential part of good education in which parents/carers play a crucial role.

"Homework" is any learning or activity completed outside lesson time, either alone, with parents, or others. Homework makes an important contribution to progress at school.

We see the purpose of homework as being to:

- Develop an effective partnership between school and families: children achieve more when teachers and parents/carers work together,
- Consolidate / reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths
- Utilise resources for learning available at home
- Extend school learning
- Develop resilience, independence and self-awareness needed for personal study
- Provide opportunities for families to work together to enjoy learning experiences

From the Early Years, mark-making, tricky words, playing with numbers, and of course, reading with parents provides valuable opportunities for the practice/reinforcement of key skills in a supportive environment. As children get older, they need to develop the habit of regularly devoting short periods of time to personal study. All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

This homework policy is designed:

- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the federation
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about the schools' expectations.
- To extend and support learning
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences

The emphasis of homework activities is on the development of skills of English and Maths. Regular reading both in and out of school is vital.

Summary of expectation:
Every child should have regular and frequent opportunities to practise the key skills of reading, spelling and maths facts at home. Little and often is best.

It is our policy to set weekly homework as follows:

Year Group	Approximate Time allocation	Activities to include
Year R	5-10 mins each day	Reading books taken home each day - Reading to parents / being read to RWI phonics activities – 3 sounds per week Reading 'Tricky Words'
Year 1	10 mins each day	Reading to parents - school reading book Regular Independent reading if able to access this Spellings Key maths facts - e.g. number bonds & times tables
Year 2	10 mins each day	Reading to parents - school reading book Regular Independent reading if able to access this Spellings Key maths facts - e.g. number bonds & times tables
Year 3	10 – 15 mins each day	Reading to parents - school reading book Regular Independent reading if able to access this Spellings Key maths facts - e.g. times tables
Year 4	10 – 15 mins each day	Reading to parents - school reading book Regular Independent reading if able to access this Spellings Key maths facts - e.g. times tables
Year 5	20 mins each day	Reading to parents - school reading book Regular Independent reading if able to access this Spellings Key maths facts - e.g. times tables
Year 6	30 mins each day	Reading to parents - school reading book Regular Independent reading if able to access this Spellings Key maths facts - e.g. times tables + Y6 regular practice questions in maths Additional homework opportunities may be provided and / or offered in preparation for end of year assessments and in preparation for secondary school.

How staff at Leesland will support this policy:

- By providing a range of 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 families and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics studied in class and their children's individual tasks
- Teachers will make it clear to pupils and families which day of the week spellings and maths activities are set, and when they are due to be tested. There will always be at least 5 days and a weekend between these two days.

- Staff will reward pupils for effort in homework activities in line with federation praise and reward systems.
- Teachers will ensure pupils receive feedback regarding any homework activity. This may be verbal feedback or may take another form.

How parents /carers can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, computers, games/toys other family members and pets
- Provide a suitable place equipped with a clear table space, chair and good light
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework completed
- Be actively involved in the homework
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by speaking to the class teacher at the beginning or end of the school day. We would also be interested in hearing how well the children completed other activities, whether they were interesting / too easy / too hard, etc.

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities with which they are presented
- Tackle home tasks promptly
- Communicate with their parents/carers regarding expectations and deadlines for homework activities
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates
- Take great care of their work to keep it looking neat and tidy, to a similar standard to their work in school.

Feedback for pupils / parents or carers and teachers

Feedback needs to be given promptly and may be given in a variety of ways:

- Verbal response from parents or carers and teachers
- Class discussion
- Tests e.g. spellings or tables
- Comments on written assignments
- Pupil / peer evaluation
- Presentation of work in class and/or school assembly

Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability. We plan work that is accessible for the performance of all groups and individuals. Leesland C of E Federation is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from bullying, intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.