

Everyone **S**miles **H**ere.
Esh Church of England Primary School.

ESH Church of England (Aided) Primary School.

Homework Policy

May 2014



These Guidelines are adopted subject to the over-riding requirements of relevant legislation, of the school Trust Deed and to the legal responsibilities and powers of the Governing Body as employer, admissions authority and owner of the school

Homework

Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

Completing Homework

At Esh we expect that most homework other than reading will result in some form of physical product, for example a written account, a picture or photo or even a model. However, on some occasions, pupils may simply be required to find out some information without recording this, or to learn a song, poem or times tables. To keep things straightforward for parents/carers, at Esh we expect homework to be returned to school in some physical form unless otherwise indicated by the class teacher. Teachers will set dates for homework to be handed out and returned.

Rationale for homework

Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. The government made clear its commitment to homework in the 1997 White Paper, 'Excellence in schools', where homework was seen as 'an essential part of good education'. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of the school.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;

Guidance on Time

The recommendation is that pupils in Years 1 and 2 spend about 1 hour a week on homework tasks, Years 3 and 4 spend 1½ hours and pupils in Years 5 and 6 spend about 2½ hours. This excludes time spent reading which should be a frequent activity - particularly with young children.

Enforcing Homework

We require pupils to complete the homework that is set by school and the vast majority of our pupils do so without fail. However, to support pupils in completing their homework, those pupils not submitting homework by the required time will be given the opportunity to complete it at some point during the school day.

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