

Homework Policy

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Twyn School we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Why give homework?

- It can inform parents about work going on in class;
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It takes advantage of the home environment and resources and the chance for some one to one adult time;
- It can be a great source for gathering topic information to share with all the children;
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, The Twyn School is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice. We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves; children are not punished if they fail to complete the work.

Our routines and expectations

Children from Year 1 to Year 6 take a book home every night, children in Reception have Phonics homework. The expectation is to read at home for at least 10 minutes each night. Parent / Carers of children in Upper Foundation Phase (UFP) complete a reading record indicating how much their child has read. The children have a specified day each week to give them the chance to bring their book back to school to change it.

Children in UFP take a list of 10 high frequency words home to learn to spell. The children will have a week to learn them before they are tested in class.

All children from Reception to Year 6 have access to an internet programme called 'Mathletics'. The school encourage the children to use this Maths tool and they can build up points to receive certificates which are given out in celebration assembly. The teacher will set 2 activities and 1 problem solving activity each week which will revise what the child has been learning in class recently. The activities will appear in the 'to do' section of the Mathletics program. The program also offers the children other tasks and activities which they can complete at home.

Throughout the year, the teacher may also expect the children to complete other homework especially for the National Eisteddfod or the weeks before the National Tests.

It is our intention, and good practice, not to send work home that the child cannot already do i.e. parents are not expected to teach new skills. There should be a clear explanation/reminder from the teacher of what is expected.

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil or pen.

What to do if you have concerns

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently please talk with your child's teacher in the first instance.

If you still have concerns, please talk with Mr Thomas, the Headteacher.

L. Thomas
February 2023