



MURDISHAW WEST COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Spring 2025

Policy Title	HOMEWORK POLICY
School/HBC	School
Written by	J.PHILLIPS
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Signed by Chair of Governors	D Cox
Date	
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Murdishaw West Community Primary School, sets out to provide the best possible outcomes for all of our pupils, especially in the core aspects of learning within reading, writing and maths. This policy covers the requirements and expectations of all types of homework for all pupils.

AUTHORITY

Although there is no statutory requirement for school's to provide children with homework, the DfE has stated that regular homework should be set for all age groups. Parents are encouraged to support their children in the completion of homework tasks.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

At Murdishaw West Community Primary School, we believe that regular homework is an important part of the learning process, designed to help develop character whilst building independence and resilience. All children at Murdishaw West Community Primary School receive regular homework appropriate to their age and stage of learning. Homework is not an "extra" but rather an integral part of the child's studies that supplements the learning process and as such, it is closely linked with the work being covered in the classroom.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- To provide a clear rationale for homework.
- To provide our pupils with the best life chances by supplementing their daily work with homework.
- To provide parents / carers with a frame of reference of their child's standard of work.
- To develop well-rounded pupils by building resilience, independence, confidence and self-esteem.

ENTITLEMENT

Frequency: We want children to be the drivers of their own learning, thus they should actively seek opportunities to develop their study. We firmly believe that the one thing children can do, is to improve to develop their accumulation of our language by reading. Children should work hard at the fundamentals of learning to read in becoming more proficient in order to read to learn; we actively encourage all parents / carers to engage with this process on a regular basis with their child at home.

Intensity: Homework tasks vary in their meaning. Some tasks will be set as precursors to learning; others may be to research a topic in some detail or a retrieval activity from a previously learnt topic. However, the vast majority of homework tasks are short (10-30 minutes) designed at practising learned skills from previously taught lessons with a suitable level of challenge.

Volume: It is not our wish to overload children with too much homework; however, we also recognise that too light a load is equally not helpful. The volume of homework is largely age related and requires a fine balance. Children should naturally spend a short time reading three times a week. In addition, further homework tasks will be set according to the demands of the class, which in some cases will mean multiple pieces at a time.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Governors, with the advice of the Headteacher, have an overall responsibility to monitor the effectiveness of this policy.

The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that teachers comply with this policy in setting regular homework tasks.

The Class Teacher has a professional duty to ensure that children in their class receive regular relevant homework exercises and that the work is marked up-to-date and returned promptly with feedback provided. Homework days should be regular and well communicated to parents / carers in advance.

Parents / Carers are responsible for the daily monitoring of their child's homework and for ensuring its completion and punctual return to school. Where children require support, for example with reading or more occasionally with other tasks such as the learning challenge, then parents / carers should provide that support. Parents / carers should note that it is the child's homework and should be largely completed by them with some adult support.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

- Reading, at all ages, forms an important part of homework. The progress of children from Reception to Year 6 is monitored through their Reading Diaries. Regular reading practise at home makes a huge difference to improving skill.
- We view it to be important that the quality of completed homework, reflects the standards we expect in school. Children are expected to put a minimum amount of time and effort into completing their work to the "normal" school standard. Homework will be marked by the teacher in accordance with the school's policy on marking.
- Homework is usually completed on sheets which are then added to a folder of work. Having a record of the homework encourages pride in work and provides evidence of achievement.
- Thorough knowledge of multiplication tables is vital in speeding up many calculations and rapid recall of multiplication facts is a priority. All children from Years 2 to 6 are given specific homework tasks to promote the learning of tables. Progress is monitored in class regularly.
- Spelling is often taught in context, however, homework is given where appropriate. We do not complete weekly spelling tests in school
- Additionally, other tasks in English and / or maths may be set each week.
- Occasionally, a teacher may feel it to be reasonable for a child to finish a piece of school work at home or during their own time within school.
- Children are given homework on Fridays. It should be returned to school on the following Wednesday. This gives time for any unexplained difficulties to be resolved. (NB in the run up to Year 6 testing, homework may be set each day, but this is for a relatively short time.)
- In the juniors, if homework is not returned on time without good reason, it is school policy for children to complete work in Homework Club. Where children continually fail to return homework on time, parents will be contacted and consulted for their support.