

Riverside Primary School



**Riverside
Primary
School**



Homework Policy

The Governing Body adopted this Policy: September 2022

Signature: *C Carr* (Co-Chair of Governors)

Signature: *C Lahive* (Head Teacher)



Riverside Primary

Homework Policy

Aims

- to encourage parental interest and support in children's learning
- reinforcement of work done at school
- to create teaching time for extension work and not over use class-time for repetition
- to make children responsible and organised in their learning at home as a preparation for more frequent homework at secondary school.

Objectives

- to increase competencies in core skills
- to develop positive attitudes to learning beyond the classroom
- to improve reading and comprehension skills
- to promote maths as an enjoyable activity through games and give it equal status with literacy

Organisation

Foundation 1

As part of our ideas for working in partnership with the families of our wonderful F1 children we have a Clever Book that the children can take home.

When the children join F2 they will start to get homework every week. This book is a way of getting the children ready for this and to enable home and F1 staff to work together in supporting and celebrating the children's achievements. This book will have individual suggestions for the next steps in your child's learning. It will also have extension activities associated with current topics.

Foundation 2

At home children should be encouraged to 'Fred Talk.' This means parents speaking in sounds for objects and children telling parents what the word is. For example the parent would say; 'Oh look, there is a red c-a-r.' The children should jump in and say 'car.' Reading books are meant to reinforce sounds, words and language that children have already been learning. Parents sign the little yellow book in their child's book bag each time they hear them read. We also send a short list of words for children to practice reading at home with an adult. These lists will be updated at regular intervals. We also give phonics challenges based on their abilities, such as: speed sound cards, phoneme frames for writing short words, spellings, handwriting sheets and pencil control sheets. We give out maths challenges tailor-made to their specific needs. These are short games to support the children's mathematical learning and children are encouraged to play them more than once.



Year 1

In Year 1, children will receive a copy of the book they are reading in their Read Write Inc. lesson and a book bag book that matches their reading ability. They will also have a library book to read each week to read at home for pleasure. Children will also have a shortlist of spellings to learn. Once a half term they will also get additional maths challenges or a piece of free writing about special events or topics.

All pupils in Year 1 will have access to Mathletics at home. This online maths platform will support children through a personalised learning journey that builds confidence through exciting games and mastery challenges. New challenges will be set every week and accounts will be closely monitored by the class teacher and maths leaders.

Year 2

Reading

As I am sure you will appreciate, the partnership between home and school is very important. Reading every night and regularly completing homework tasks will aid your child's learning. We would ask that you sign in the reading diary to say when a book has been read, and record any comments that you might wish to make. It is also helpful if you can talk to your child about their reading book and ask questions to test their understanding. (What happened when...? Why do you think *So-and-so* did that?, What would have happened if...?)

As well as their school reading book, please encourage your child to read other material; books of their choice, comics, recipes, etc.

Spelling

Your child will bring home a spelling list with a column of words for them to learn to spell. It is up to your child to choose how they practise their spellings. They might find it helpful to use a strategy like *Look, Cover, Write, Check* or they might want to write their words into sentences. The children will be tested on their spellings weekly at school and, when successful.

In addition, your child will be given a maths or English task to do usually about a topic they are doing.

All pupils in Year 2 will have access to Mathletics at home. This online maths platform will support children through a personalised learning journey that builds confidence through exciting games and mastery challenges. New challenges will be set every week and accounts will be closely monitored by the class teacher and maths leaders.

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6

Reading should be done every night for 20 minutes. The children will have an opportunity to change their reading books as they finish. Children will use Accelerated Reader to test their understanding of the book read upon return to school. The programme also allows pupils to test at home before 4pm.



As well as reading, the children will have Mathletics passwords to complete additional maths work at home or in our weekly homework club after school. This online maths platform will support children through a personalised learning journey that builds confidence through exciting games and mastery challenges. New challenges will be set every week and accounts will be closely monitored by the class teacher and maths leaders.

Every half term, we will have a focus on retaining key 'sticky facts' from one of the foundation subjects. A weekly whole-school assembly will announce the class winners of the weekly challenge quiz.

Year Six pupils will also have access to additional online programmes that they are encouraged to use at home. These include Spag.com and My Rising Stars reading comprehensions. These tools are invaluable in preparation for national testing.

Support strategies

We know that some children are unable to do homework at home for a variety of domestic reasons. Once a week, children are welcome to attend our homework club, which runs from 3:15-4:30. Here, pupils will have access to ICT equipment and adult support in a peaceful learning environment.

SEND

We recognise that for children with Special Educational Needs parental support is vital therefore individual outcomes should be worked on consistently at home and at school. When children, parents and teachers work together outcomes are considerably improved.

Maths Passport

All KS2 pupils will take part in a yearly maths passport challenge to reinforce key mental maths skills. The maths passport work will be celebrated in a special awards assembly and children who complete the passport will receive a special badge to wear with pride on their uniform.

Inclusive in its design, the passport offers all pupils of all abilities the chance to improve their mental maths skills.