



## **Homework Policy**

**2024 - 2025**

### **Introduction**

At Longney C of E Primary Academy, we believe that partnership between home and school has a powerful impact on pupil success in school. To help achieve this commitment, we set weekly homework linked to our reading, writing and maths curriculums. Our homework expectations increase with age to prepare pupils for life beyond our school and in particular the expectations of secondary education.

We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support, whilst still allowing for family time and leisure activities.

We have based this policy on feedback from parents in October 2024 and will ask for feedback on our policy on an annual basis to ensure that we make adjustments as and when needed in line with the needs of our families at Longney.

### **Aims of the Policy**

- to ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- to ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- to ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding of the expectations placed on them, and the pupil, by the school
- to provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy a range of learning experiences
- To encourage a positive attitude to learning beyond the school gate.
- To support children's progress.

It is expected that parents will support their children:

- by taking an active interest in their child's homework
- by encouraging them and praising their efforts
- by supervising and enabling them to complete tasks, providing a suitable place where homework can be undertaken
- by reminding them to hand in their homework on time and look after their homework book.
- by noting when a reasonable amount of time has been spent on a homework task and making the decision to stop, if necessary, before completion (and informing the class teacher of this decision)

Pupils are asked to:

- spend the allocated time on their homework tasks and hand it in on time
- listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them
- have a go at all of their homework activities
- Ask their teacher for advice and feedback if they haven't understood.
- Present their homework neatly and with care.

The teachers will ensure that:

- Homework is set in advance and with clear dates for handing in
- tasks set are reasonable and matched to the pupils' needs

- Always acknowledge completed homework and give feedback where needed.
- support and listen to parents and children who ask for help

The Headteacher will:

- promote this policy by raising its status and importance
- ensure that all teachers are clear on homework expectations and that feedback is timetabled in to the school day
- provide supportive guidance for parents
- Keep the website up to date with expectations and share the policy with all parents.
- monitor and evaluate the policy

The Governing Body will:

- have responsibility for the effective monitoring of the implementation of this policy

A homework timetable will be provided by the class teacher at the beginning of the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms setting out the homework tasks. A book will be provided for each child with their homework for the term stuck in so that they have everything they need for the whole term. This book will need to travel back and forth to school in a book bag or plastic folder. Most of the homework is provided for completion over the course of a week so it can be fitted in with family lifestyles and commitments. Homework will not be set in the holidays.

## **Reading**

From Reception to year 6, all children are encouraged to read at home as often as possible. Reading is an incredibly important skill which leads to increased learning outcomes in all areas. It has a positive effect on progress in not just reading but writing, spelling, maths and the wider curriculum.

At Longney, all children are expected to read at least 4 times a week at home. This can be recorded in your child's reading record which is sent home each day. The more your child reads at home, the more progress they will make.

As they get older, they may enjoy reading to themselves and this should be encouraged as it will help them learn to love books. However, it is still important for them to read out loud to an adult on occasion as reading aloud is a very different skill. It helps your child to practise slowing down and focussing on every word as well as thinking about the expression with which a sentence has been written. It also allows you to keep track of how they are progressing. Please ensure your child gets a balance of both at home as they get older and feel free to record both in their reading record.

In Reception and Year 1, your child will come home with a book each week which allows them to practise the phonics they have learnt that week in school. From the summer term in year 1, once they know all their sounds, they will be moved on to an Oxford Reading Level book. It is important that they read this book regularly to make continued progress. However, please do also encourage them to read books for pleasure either from home, the school library or any other source. Please feel free to record this reading in your child's reading record as well so that we get a good picture of the reading they are doing outside of school and to keep them interested and excited about books. In school, reading is taught through daily phonics lessons in Swallows and Skylarks class and through whole class reading sessions taught across the school each week. These sessions involve reading and enjoying a text together and answering questions about what has been read, both through discussion and written answers. A love of reading is also encouraged through teachers reading a class book at the end of most days and through our teaching of writing which is often based on stories the class have read together. The children are encouraged to read quietly to themselves in school from year 1 upwards to get them into good reading habits and so that the teachers have chance to hear them one-

to-one to assess their progress and move them on to the next reading level when necessary. For more information about our approach to reading please see our website [here](#).

The homework in school will increase in volume and focus as the children move through the school as follows:

Reception and Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading of ELS phonics book.</li> <li>• Phonics activities</li> </ul>
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading of Oxford Reading Tree colour banded book.</li> </ul>
Year 3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading of Oxford Reading Tree colour banded book.</li> <li>• Times Tables Rockstars – weekly homework set online.</li> <li>• Grammar focus – weekly compulsory ‘Do it’ activity and optional ‘Deepen it’ activity.</li> </ul>
Year 5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading of Oxford Reading Tree colour banded book.</li> <li>• Times Tables Rockstars – weekly homework set online for those who still require support following assessment at the end of year 4.</li> <li>• Grammar focus – weekly compulsory ‘Do it’ activity and optional ‘Deepen it’ activity.</li> <li>• Maths focus – weekly arithmetic questions based on key year 5 and 6 objectives.</li> </ul>

For all year groups, there will be a bank of optional activities sent home at the start of the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms based on the wider curriculum and our school values. The children can choose to complete these at home and hand them in on set dates each half term to share with their classmates.