Whitwell Primary School



Homework Policy

The Governing Board adopted this policy on **29.01.2026**

Signed _____
Chair

Record of Policy Reviews & Amendments

Date	Author	Amendments
29-Jan-26	Sarah Tomlinson	Learning Log removed

The Department for Education requires all schools to have a written homework policy that gives guidance to both teachers and parents about what is expected of them on a weekly basis. Homework is defined as 'any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents'.

Homework at Whitwell Primary School

Homework is an important part of the learning process at Whitwell Primary School. Homework is considered 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 to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

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 from 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 believe children develop their skills, interests and talents to the full when maximizing experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

Aims of this Policy

To raise standards by helping parents support their child's learning at home more effectively.

Objectives

- To provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in relation to children's learning;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences;
- To consolidate and extend learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

Year Group	Possible Type of Homework	**Frequency guide** *(suggestion of three sessions a week)*
Reception	Reading and practising of phonic sounds and maths activities	45 minutes in total per week
Year 1 & 2	Reading, weekly spellings or phonic tasks, times tables or mathematics task	1 hour in total per week

Year 3, 4, 5	Reading, weekly spellings, times tables, mathematics task.	1¼ hours in total per week
Year 6	Reading, weekly spellings, grammar, times tables, mathematics task. There will be some Booster session homework for formal assessments in the Spring Term.	2 hours in total per week

The time spent on homework should be spread over the week. Little and often is the best approach for learning spellings and tables. Homework is set weekly and discussed with children in class before they take it home. A timetable with all homework information can be found on each class's webpage. No homework is set for the holidays, with the exception of Y6 maths before SATS to keep the children practising calculations for 10 minutes a day.

Rewards and Sanctions

A consistent system is in place across in Key Stage 2. When a child completes homework for the correct day they are rewarded with 10 Wellians. If a child forgets their homework they pay a 5 Wellian fine. This is then paid back if they bring the homework on the next day.
If a child does not bring their homework the next day, they miss their playtime to complete the work.

Where children do not bring homework on consecutive weeks, they miss playtime to complete their homework on the day that the homework is due.

Children are able to earn up to 50 Wellians per week for reading, spelling and maths which is consistently handed in. They all earn at least 5 W for their spelling tests and can earn additional Wellians for reading more than once a week. This link to the school behaviour policy promotes good habits as the children enjoy the rewards.

Pupil Absence

If a child is absent on the day that homework is given out, the teacher should ensure that the child receives the work. This can be given to a relative to pass on or given to the child when they return to school, depending on the length of absence.

If a child is off school long term, the teacher will liaise with the parent to ensure that work is sent home regularly for the child, where this is appropriate.
Children can all access online resources at home: Purple Mash, Oxford Owl, TTRockstars in KS2 or the Oak National Academy.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Role of the Parents

We are grateful for the support parents and other adults can give in helping children to complete homework successfully. Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education and homework is

an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their children to complete the homework tasks that are set.

Parents can also support their child by providing a good working space at home, by allowing them to access online resources and by discussing the work that their child is doing or even by enabling their child to visit the library or visiting places linked to their curriculum learning.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should contact their child's class teacher.

The policy will be made available to parents and published on our school website.