



Micklem Primary School Homework Policy

Responsible Committee	Curriculum
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Signed on behalf of the Governing Body	Alison Brown
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Micklem Primary School **Homework Policy**

At Micklem Primary School, we see homework as a useful tool in consolidating learning that has happened in class as well as deepening the understanding that a child has of a particular topic.

Although as educators we place great value on independent work completed out of school, we recognise that everybody needs to relax at the end of a busy day and it is not our intention to overburden children with additional work. We recognise too that homework takes place during a pupil's own time and may conflict with other activities. The experiences children have outside of school are major factors in shaping their attitudes, interests and outlook on life; for this reason we would encourage all parents to give their children opportunities to participate in activities and clubs which interest them.

By maintaining a consistent approach to homework and providing a channel for communication between home and school, we hope to strengthen our mutual co-operation for the benefit of the children.

What is the purpose of homework?

Homework has several purposes and may vary according to the age of the child and the task in hand. At Micklem it is our intention during the course of a child's time with us is to provide opportunities to:

- practise and consolidate skills introduced in class
- prepare for future classwork
- develop skills using a range of learning resources
- allow individuals the opportunity to practise planning and organising their time
- develop good habits and self-discipline
- allow parents to become involved in their child's learning

What can I expect for my child?

Reading

All children are expected to read every night. For younger children, this may involve reading to, or discussing and sharing a book with an adult, particularly in our Nursery and Reception classes. Older children may read independently, but parents can be involved by asking about the book (who the characters are, whether your child is enjoying it etc.). *All children should read or be read to for at least 20 minutes each night. Reading records must be signed by a parent or carer.*

We strongly recommend that children continue to read during the holidays and encourage them to join the local library who often run schemes and competitions. Children can broaden their experience by reading a whole

range of other reading materials (e.g. non-fiction books, recipes, magazines) so they begin to understand that reading is an important and necessary skill in everyday life.

Spelling and Phonics

Each week, pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 will be given spelling or phonics homework to support their English development and progress. Children in KS1 and KS2 will be expected to practise their times tables. This will be through the use of the Times tables Rock Star app

Homework Tasks

Following the school's move to the cloud, homework will be set either via Seesaw (Y1 and Y2) or via Google Classroom (Y3-Y6). Children without access to devices will be able to borrow a device to access their homework or will be provided with the opportunity to complete homework in school or in a homework club.

School anticipates that there will be a period of adjustment and will be supporting parents to be able to support their child to access both these platforms.

What will teachers do?

- allow children a suitable amount of time to complete work before handing it in
- give work which allows children to reinforce, improve or extend learning
- provide tasks which are matched to a child's ability
- vary the tasks to make the work more stimulating and enjoyable
- give children constructive feedback regarding the quality and attainment of completed tasks
- ensure consistency within the class
- encourage all children through praise and recognition of individual efforts

How can parents help?

- support the homework policy by working in partnership with your child and his/ her teacher
- ensure work is received from/returned to school
- get your child settled in a suitable place to work away from distractions and at an appropriate time of day
- encourage your child to complete the work to the best of his/her ability
- Oversee work and check that it is completed (but don't do it for them!)
- Encourage your child to use different sources (e.g. the library or internet).

Further Information

Children who do not complete work on time or to a reasonable standard will be offered the opportunity to do it the next night. If homework has still not been completed (and no relevant reason given by the parent) then Key stage 2 children may be requested to complete their homework at break

time. If a child repeatedly fails to complete work, a consultation between the parents and teacher may be arranged to discuss any problems.

Teachers will support children to manage homework expectations on an individual basis.

In Upper Key Stage 2, further tasks may be provided to the children in order to develop their independence skills and to prepare them for the more rigorous expectations in secondary school.