



BUTTSBURY
JUNIOR SCHOOL

AN ACADEMY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

Maximum Effort for Maximum Achievement

Introduction

There is currently no statutory requirement for schools to set homework for children; however we believe that homework is an important aspect of school life and can make a valuable contribution to a child's progress at school. It can extend the challenges open to pupils and provides opportunities for parents and teachers to engage in a supportive partnership. It also enables pupils to develop skills as an independent learner.

The Purpose of Homework

The purpose of homework is to:

- develop a partnership between the school and parents/carers in pursuing the aims of the school;
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding;
- exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home;
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading; and
- as pupils get older, to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

In their homework, children are asked to practise or extend their skills but they are not asked to tackle unknown concepts nor develop new skills.

Homework should not get in the way of other activities that children may do after school - such as sport, music and clubs of all kinds.

What is homework?

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents/carers.

Homework does not just mean formal exercises carried out by children without help from adults. The involvement of parents/carers in joint activities, which can be very brief, is most valuable in promoting children's learning.

Regular homework includes sharing books, reading and discussion of the text (children to parents, parents to children, children on their own); literacy related work such as practising word families, spellings and handwriting; maths related work such as practising number bonds and times tables, or completing number games and tasks. Homework might (on occasion) also include finding out information, reading in preparation for lessons, preparing an oral presentation or more traditional written assignments.

What is Expected Year by Year?

Following discussion, and based on the government guidelines, teaching staff have prepared outlines of the expectations the school has for homework. These outlines are grouped into Years Three and Four, and Years Five and Six. They are intended as a guide for teachers, pupils and parents/carers alike.

When is homework not given?

Homework is not usually given in the following circumstances:

- Where children are absent due to short-term illness;
- Where children are absent due to holiday;
- Where children are absent due to valid educational experiences, e.g. participation in public performances (theatre and dance shows) and rehearsals.
- During school holidays, with the exception of Year 6 at the end of the Spring Term. However, reading and times tables practice should continue.

Administration of Homework

Homework is normally set on Thursdays to be handed in by the following Tuesday. A worked example should always be given for the Maths activity.

Marking of Homework

Homework is marked with a positive comment with house points given to acknowledge the effort the child has put in at home. Next step targets or 'Even Better Ifs' (EBIs) are not given. Key spelling errors are highlighted.

Errors in Maths are corrected with an explanation given which could be verbal or written.

Monitoring and Review

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