

Home Learning Policy

Meare Village Primary School



Approved by:	Headteacher
---------------------	-------------

Date:	February 2026
--------------	---------------

Next review due by:	February 2028
----------------------------	---------------

This policy is based on the guidance from the Education Endowment Foundation research into the impact of homework on children's learning. Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. The key findings from the research are:

- Homework has a positive impact on average (+ 3 months) for primary age children
- Some pupils may not have a quiet space for home learning. Homework clubs can help to overcome barriers to learning by offering pupils the resources and support needed to undertake homework (We are considering setting up a homework club but this is dependent upon the school budget)
- Evidence suggests that homework should not be used as a punishment or penalty for poor performance.
- Homework that is linked to classroom work tends to be more effective. In particular, studies that included feedback on homework had higher impacts on learning.
- It is important to make the purpose of homework clear to pupils (e.g. to increase a specific area of knowledge, or to develop fluency in a particular area).
- The quality of the task set is more important than the quantity of work required from the pupil. There is some evidence that the impact of homework diminishes as the amount of time pupils spend on it increases. The studies reviewed with the highest impacts set homework twice a week in a particular subject.
- Evidence also suggests that how homework relates to learning during normal school time is important. In the most effective examples homework was an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on. To maximise impact, it also appears to be important that students are provided with high quality feedback on their work.
- Homework using digital technology leads to greater progress

Reception

- Sharing a book with family (reading focus)
- Regular use of Numbots - (Maths focus)

Year 1

- Reading at least 3 times per week (Reading focus)
- Numbots/ TT Rockstars - (Maths focus)

Years 2 to 6

- Reading at least 3 times per week (Reading focus).
- Half-Termly Homework Grids which the children choose projects from throughout the term. The grids will be given out the first Friday of term, and the children will do a presentation of their work the last week of the term.
- Spelling practice of the Weekly Spelling Lists (Spelling Focus). Spellings are due the day of the test in class, and a new list will be handed out the following day.
- Numbots/TT Rockstars (Maths focus).

Practical Ways to Help your Child with Homework

1. Provide a quiet environment

Provide a quiet, well lit study area. Avoid distractions such as the television and loud music. Encourage other family members to be quiet, especially youngsters.

2. Have a Regular Home Learning Routine

Obviously household routines differ. Late at night is rarely a good time to study, as children are tired. You may need to be flexible if your child attends outside activities. Try to get a balance, but home learning is a priority. If it is being rushed then consider reducing after school commitments or television viewing. Having a routine helps to avoid excuses such as "I'll do it after this programme" or "I forgot." It is important that a child learns to take responsibility rather than having to rely on reminders. Also, do not expect your child to work on an empty stomach. No-one works well when they are hungry. Children also need to 'chill' when they first get home from school.

3. Praise Effort

It is vital to praise a child for their efforts. Positive comments are more effective than critical ones. A child can become disaffected if continually reminded of shortcomings. Building self-esteem is very important if a child is to try/show resilience with school work.

4. Show an Interest

Make time to talk about school in daily conversations. You can give your child a good start if you read with your child and discuss current reading books. Children need to read their Read, Write inc books at least 3 times to increase fluency. They should only change their book when they are not having to sound out the words.

5. Provide Equipment

Ensure your child has basic equipment such as pens, pencils, a ruler, rubbers, a dictionary and writing paper. Other useful items could include paper clips, a calculator, scissors, glue, a thesaurus and sticky tape. These should be kept together.

6. Set a Good Example

Children's attitudes to homework are mainly influenced by their family's guidance and examples. They are more likely to want to do their homework if they see you reading and writing. Please avoid saying that you found a particular subject difficult when you were at school (this is particularly common in maths) as this has a negative impact on your children.

7. Monitor Home Learning

Obviously how closely children need to be monitored is dependent on several factors:
the age of the child

how independently your child is able to work

It is a good idea to check home learning over. It is important to remember that the home learning is not yours, but your child's. If you do the home learning you are not helping your child to become an independent learner.