

CARR HEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Aims of the Policy

It is intended that this policy will provide clear guidance for the setting of homework. We believe that an enjoyable, relevant homework programme helps children become life-long, independent learners.

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do;
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning;
- Reinforce 'back to basics' work covered in class by providing further opportunities for learning.

The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in a variety of forms with a number of different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework, there are a number of points to consider:-

- It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that the child has sufficient time in an appropriate environment at home to complete their homework;
- Homework has the greatest impact on a child's attainment when parents are actively involved in supervising/supporting a child when completing homework tasks.
- The nature and type of homework can change throughout a child's school life;
- The amount and frequency of homework can increase as a child gets older;
- Homework should not cause unreasonable stress on a child, family or teacher;
- Homework will not necessarily come in the form of a written task;

Recommended time allocation

- Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the child's family. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task except where daily practice is encouraged, for example, reading and multiplication tables practice.

Role of the teacher

The teacher should:

- Ensure that any homework is purposeful and relevant
- Provide an explanation of the homework task for parents when necessary and give guidance on how parents might assist their child. This can be achieved through a written explanation with a specific task, at a parents' workshop, during a parents' meeting or via the website.

- Set up regular homework in an easily followed routine;
- Mark homework as and when appropriate and give feedback to children;
- Monitor the return of homework and liaise with parents as and when necessary if homework is not being completed;

Role of the Headteacher and the Governing Body

The headteacher/governing body should;

- Check the school's compliance with this policy;
- Liaise with parents to ascertain whether the policy is appropriate/effective;
- Discuss with staff on the effectiveness of the policy and its impact on learning.

Role of Parents/Carers

Parents should;

- Provide a suitable place for the child to complete their homework;
- Actively involve and support their child with homework activities;
- Liaise with school if they require additional advice from teaching staff so that their child can successfully complete homework tasks/activities;
- Ensure homework booklets are well looked after and returned to school on time;
- Be aware that we welcome a contribution towards any replacement booklets that are lost or damaged.

Equal Opportunities

We recognise that children and their families have differing circumstances and we therefore aim to make our homework activities as manageable and accessible as possible to all pupils.

In some instances if a child is experiencing difficulties in completing homework, teachers may provide additional time outside normal lessons for children to complete 'homework' tasks.

If children are absent due to illness, we will not send work home as we assume that the child is too ill to complete tasks. However, if a child's absence is due to, for example, broken bones etc. then the school will provide activities for the child to complete at home if parents request it. As the school's management rarely authorises leave from school, staff do not provide homework for children absent from school for this reason.

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