



# **Toft Hill Primary School**

## **Home Work Policy**

Adopted by Governing Body November 2017

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair of Governors)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Headteacher)

Date of review: September 2019

## **Toft Hill Primary School: Policy for SMSC**

### **Rationale**

The school policy for homework was developed and agreed by the whole staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body. The policy was approved and ratified by the Governing Body during the Autumn Term 2017 and is regularly reviewed.

### **Aims**

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

### **The Nature of Homework**

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

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child.
3. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.

4. Homework should be set regularly from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.

### **Recommended Time Allocation**

If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables.

The following are government recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities.

Years 1 and 2 - 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4 - 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6 - 30 minutes per day

### **Homework Tasks**

Listed below, for each Phase of Toft Hill Primary School, are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

### **Foundation Stage**

These may include:

- Reading books and key words
- Counting in the environment.
- Reciting nursery and counting rhymes.
- Identification of shapes in the environment.
- Fastening and unfastening buttons and zips and tying shoelaces – getting dressed and undressed etc. etc

### **Year 1 and Year 2**

These may include:

- Reading books and key words

- Learning spellings
- Learning number facts
- Literacy activities
- Maths written method activities

### **Year 3 and Year 4**

These may include:

- Reading
- Spellings
- Reading comprehension activities
- Maths written method activities
- Learning number facts
- Self-directed project (1 term)

### **Year 5 and Year 6**

They may include:

- Reading
- Spellings
- Reading comprehension activities
- Maths written method activities
- Learning number facts
- Self-directed project (1 term)

### **Responsibilities**

#### **Role of the Class Teacher**

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work, at a pre-school parents meeting or at an open evening if possible.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.

- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes in the Year group.
- To set homework that takes equal and racial opportunities into account.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework appropriately, when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

### **Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body**

- To check compliance of the Policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

### **Role of Parents/Carers**

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

At Toft Hill Primary School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

### **Equal opportunities**

All children are provided with equal access to homework within the curriculum. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, ethnicity or home background.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

The effectiveness of the implementation of this policy will be reported to the Governing Body. This policy will be reviewed and revised as necessary, but no later than January 2018.