

# **Bredenbury Primary School**

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

**July 2019**

**Signed and dated:**

**Chair of Governors**

**Headteacher**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Homework has an important role to play in helping deliver Bredenbury primary School's vision of:

- ✚ developing strong, supportive partnership between home and school;
- ✚ establishing learning as a life-long adventure that extends beyond the confines of the classroom

It is the intention of this policy to ensure consistency of approach and progression throughout the school that will realise the full value of homework to each child.

At Bredenbury Primary School we are committed to homework as a strategy which:

- ✚ fosters quality learning
- ✚ promotes increased understanding
- ✚ encourages parental involvement
- ✚ deepens awareness that learning is a whole life activity
- ✚ develops responsible, independent learners
- ✚ prepares our older children for the demands of high school

Please remember, having a daily battle over homework is not helpful for anyone. If your child is tired or unwell they may not want to complete homework. Homework is intended to support what children learn in class and whilst it is clear that those who regularly complete it *do* benefit, having a two-hour struggle is in no-one's interests.

Consultation with staff in:	June 2019
Ratified by governors on:	3.7.2019
To be reviewed by staff in:	Every 2 years June 2021
To be reviewed by governors in:	If changes are needed

**Bredenbury Primary School**  
**HOMEWORK POLICY**  
**July 2019**

**1. AIMS OF THIS POLICY**

2. To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the School.
3. To ensure that teachers, parents/carers and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
4. To ensure teachers, parents/carers and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

**2. HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP**

All staff at Bredenbury Primary School believe in the value of close home-school links in supporting children's progress. Parents are asked to encourage their children to undertake and complete homework tasks in order to promote

- good attitude to work
- self-esteem and a sense of achievement
- improved standards of performance

A letter is sent to parents in the Autumn Term outlining the Homework Plan and encouraging support for homework, by ensuring the child has a quiet work base and completes each task on time.

Should homework present a problem, then parents are asked to seek support. Parental comment is encouraged in homework diaries, reading records and homework books.

**3. THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK**

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning at School.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming independent learners.

**4. THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL**

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.

**Bredenbury Primary School**  
**HOMEWORK POLICY**  
**July 2019**

- To provide support for parents with information about home work.

**5. THE ROLE OF THE CHILD**

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework set.
- To make sure they understand the tasks they have been set.
- To put the same level of effort into homework as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board the feedback about homework.

**6. THE ROLE OF THE PARENT OR CARER**

- To support the School by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To support the child in completing homework.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for their child to carry out their homework.
- To ensure their child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate resources for their child to complete the homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework, creating a positive environment.
- To make it clear they value homework and they support the School by explaining how it can help learning.

**7. THE ROLE OF THE HEADTEACHER AND GOVERNORS**

- To check compliance of the policy.
- To monitor the implementation of the policy.

**8. IMPORTANT FACTORS WHEN CONSIDERING  
SETTING/COMPLETING HOMEWORK**

In setting Homework, class teachers are mindful that some parents have greater opportunity to support their child than others. Homework, may, therefore, be open ended to allow the child to investigate a topic in more depth. It should not always be necessary for parents to support the completion of homework.

**Bredenbury Primary School**  
**HOMEWORK POLICY**  
**July 2019**

It should be possible for Homework to be completed within a reasonable time. If parents have to support most of the task in order for it to be completed, or the task takes a long time to complete, parents are encouraged to discuss the matter with their child's class teacher.

**9. BREDENBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK 2019**

**READING HOMEWORK: ALL Year groups**

This will continue as before. Pupils will be asked to read for ten or fifteen minutes a day (or around an hour a week), in order to practise and develop their reading skills. These skills are important as they underpin every other aspect of the curriculum. Oxford Owl <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-school> can support you to do this at home. It is a free, online collection of around 250 books that can be read on a laptop or tablet. Each one allows you to share the text as you can choose to have them read aloud for you. They also come with additional fun activities to support reading. We ask only that you encourage your child to re-read rather than choosing new ones so that we can continue to use them in school to teach reading skills.

**SPELLINGS Y3 Y4 Y5 and Y6**

Some parents commented that they felt their child had a lot of homework. We are therefore limiting what we ask parents to support. The governors felt that it was important to continue to expect pupils to learn spellings as they support writing, and also because they are tested on it as part of the Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test in Key Stage 2 tests. There will be a maximum of ten spellings.

**MATHEMATICS – Y1 to Y6**

The governors felt that a balance could be struck between the desire by teachers to support learning in class and the frustration of parents whose children did not want to complete homework. Mathematics homework will now involve the learning of times tables. Parents will hopefully find this less onerous (the governors did fully appreciate that many parents work full-time and therefore find homework difficult to manage.) Each pupil after half term will be given an appropriate set to learn. In Key Stage Two this will be tested

# **Bredenbury Primary School**

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

### **July 2019**

through 55 Club. In Key Stage One it will be given only once the teacher is certain the child is ready. It will be checked during work in lessons.  
**No other Mathematics homework will be set.**

#### **ADDITIONAL HOMEWORK**

Where a teacher feels it appropriate, one additional **OPTIONAL** piece of homework will be set. It will link to an aspect of the enquiry that class is researching. It will be set at the beginning of a half term for collection during the last week of that half term. Parents will be asked to encourage their child to complete the work but there will be no sanction if they do not. We obviously hope you will support your child's efforts to develop their understanding of a topic they will be researching in depth in school. (Please note that not every teacher will set an optional piece of work every half term.)

(From time to time there may teachers may ask pupils to complete one-off tasks such as learning lines for a production.)

#### **Y6 ONLY**

The Governors believe that it is important to fully prepare Year 6 pupils for secondary school. They agreed that preparation for SATS should continue. If your child is in Year 6 they will bring home appropriate revision and support materials. It would be greatly appreciated if you could support us in this.

#### **What if a child says they have not received homework?**

If there is any reason why a child has not received homework, their teacher will inform parents. If parents have not received a letter, then they should check with the child's teacher.

#### **How will the homework be marked?**

All work completed will be initialled by the class teacher. Where appropriate the homework will be marked in line with the School's Marking Policy.

#### **What will happen if a child does not complete their homework?**

The expectations are that children will complete their homework. However if for any reason children are unable to complete their homework,

# **Bredenbury Primary School**

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

### **July 2019**

parents/carers should provide the class teacher with a note or contact the class teacher explaining why the homework has not been completed on the day the homework was due to be returned to school. Teachers will keep records of children completing homework.

There may be occasions when a child will miss playtime or some of lunch time, if they have not completed homework. This time will be used for completing the set tasks. If a child has regularly not completed their homework throughout the year, then a comment to this effect will be made on the child's Annual School Report.

#### **10. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Teachers will ensure that homework is used appropriately to meet the needs of all the children regardless of ethnicity, gender, ability, attainment or social background (N.B. as in equal opportunities policy)

#### **11. SPECIAL NEEDS**

Setting appropriate homework for children with special needs, which does not demand too much or too little, should be agreed with the SENCO and discussed with the parents. Tasks should:

- have clear focus and time scale
- give opportunity to succeed
- help to develop a range of skills (as well as social skills)
- be manageable for teachers

#### **12. BOOK BAGS**

Every parent is encouraged to buy a book bag when their child starts school to transport homework to and from school.

#### **13. MONITORING AND REVIEW PROCESS**

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed by staff annually or when the need arises, and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be made to the governors.

Homework is subject to regular evaluation and review in Key Stage and Staff meetings.