

## The Raleigh School Homework Policy

Reviewed September 2021

Next review 2024

### What is it?

Homework is work set to do outside the timetabled curriculum. A better term might be reinforcement studies. Encouragement should be given for the effort that the children put in.

### What is the purpose?

- homework can offer opportunities for work which is independent of an adult.
- it can exploit sources inaccessible in the classroom
- it can give practice in skills learnt in class
- it can help to strengthen liaison between home and School
- it enables children to gain the self-discipline necessary to complete homework on time
- it can also broaden the children's outlook, study skills and initiative.

### What is the role of parents?

Homework should be seen as a partnership between School and home, parent and child. The teaching staff recognise that there are difficulties in enforcing homework but we ask for parents' help in promoting a good attitude from the children. Parents can help their children by:-

- encouraging regular use of a touch typing course
- seeing that homework is undertaken in a relaxed manner
- that conscientious effort is applied under the best possible conditions
- encouraging and praising their children
- taking an interest in presentation, handwriting and spelling
- testing what has to be learnt
- listening to the child read or asking them to explain what they have been studying.

Parents should help the children to work at their own pace and make sure that there is sufficient time for the children's own interests. Outside interests often release abilities and energies which the formal school curriculum fails to identify or exploit. We recognise the importance of outside interests e.g. music lessons, Cubs and Brownies, Scouts and Guides, gym clubs etc. If a child is unable to complete a piece of homework due to other commitments we would appreciate parents sending in a short note to let us know by when the child will be able to complete it. Children who do not hand in homework will be required to stay in at playtime or lunch time to complete it at the discretion of the teacher.

### What will be set?

The following are a few examples of the type of approach which may be used:-

- research
- looking for things. Forming hypotheses, conclusions based on observations
- learning – poems, tables, number bonds, spellings etc.
- observation - birds in garden, insects
- recording - with simple graphs, naturalist notebooks, art work, maps, tape recording or possibly photographs
- preparation - collecting words or phrases for future use from real experience
- reading - reading for information and pleasure
- asking - using a questionnaire, finding out from relatives and friends
- making - simple models, diagrams, etc.
- watching and listening - specific TV or radio programmes
- letter writing - finding out more information, commenting or 'thank you' letters, etc.
- mathematics - investigation connected with areas of study, practice of skills
- drama - planning sketches, dance, etc.
- continuation - an interest in an area of study, finishing something started in School or redrafting work

## Homework Guidelines

### Key Stage 1

Reception	Year1	Year 2
<p>Reading every night</p> <p>Phonics practice – letters or digraphs to learn when ready</p> <p>In the Spring term we give high frequency words to learn as well as handwriting sheets</p> <p>Children have a Mathletics log in and access to appropriate online activities</p> <p>Children may bring in objects relating to current work</p>	<p>Reading every night</p> <p>High frequency words to be learnt initially for reading and then for writing</p> <p>Half termly overview of work to be covered and follow up activities to include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letters and sounds to be learned</li> <li>• English areas of study</li> <li>• Maths methods and areas of study</li> <li>• Science areas of study</li> <li>• Topic work to research</li> </ul> <p>Children have a Mathletics log in and access to appropriate online activities which are set each half term.</p> <p>Children may bring in objects relating to current work.</p>	<p>Reading every night</p> <p>Weekly spellings to be assessed in school</p> <p>Online homework set half termly through the following sites:</p> <p>Mathletics</p> <p>TT Rockstars</p> <p>SPAG.com</p> <p>Suggested amount is 10 minutes a week on Mathletics / TT Rockstars and a further 5 minutes on SPAG.com, but children may use it more than this.</p> <p>Children may bring in objects relating to current work.</p>

## General Guidelines for Homework in Key Stage 2

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<p><b>Every week night KS2 children are expected to:</b>  <b>Read and have their reading record signed a minimum of 3 times,</b>  <b>Practise their times tables and spellings.</b></p>			
In addition they will be set 2 pieces in accordance with the list below (20 mins).	In addition they will be set 2 other pieces in accordance with the list below (20 mins each)	In addition they will be set 2 other pieces in accordance with the list below (30 mins each).	In addition they will be set 2 other pieces in accordance with the list below (40 mins each).
<p><b>All homework is set on a Friday and due in the following Wednesday.</b></p> <p>1 x maths piece The other piece could include science, topic, English etc</p>	<p><b>1 x maths piece is set on a Wednesday and due in on a Friday.</b></p> <p>The other piece could include English, science or topic etc and <b>is set on a Friday and due in the following Wednesday.</b></p>	<p><b>1 x maths piece is set on a Wednesday and due in on a Monday.</b></p> <p>The other piece could include English, science, topic etc and <b>is set on a Wednesday and due in the following Monday.</b></p>	<p><b>1 x maths piece is set on a Monday and due in on a Wednesday.</b></p> <p>The other piece could include English, science, topic etc and <b>is set on a Thursday and due in the following Monday.</b></p>
<p>Children complete a weekly assessment of their spelling words, learnt as part of their homework.</p> <p>This is a guideline in that subjects set may be more flexible in order to be relevant for a particular week. Newsletters from year groups should inform parents of any substantial change.</p> <p><b>Children being taught in the Extended Learning Classes (Years 4-6) may receive additional homework to support their catch up program.</b></p>			



Online resources such as Mathletics, TT Rock Stars, SPAG.com and Read Theory may be used as part of the homework package detailed above.

### Conclusion:

The success of homework must rely upon quality rather than quantity. It has great potential to link home to school.