



Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School

Encouraging Everyone's Light to Shine

Home Learning Policy

**Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still;
teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.**

Proverbs 9:9

**Date Ratified: March 2017
Review Date: September 2019**

1. Why set homework?

Homework is a desirable, additional extension to children's work in school. It helps to:

- Develop an effective partnership between the school and families
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding gained in school
- Exploit resources for learning within the home
- Encourage children as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, preparing them for the requirements of secondary school

2. What sort of work is set?

Homework should normally be closely linked to work being done in school. It generally provides opportunity for reinforcement, practice, extension or preparation for the work being done in the classroom.

At Essendon in KS1 and KS2, homework is usually set out in pupil's Home Learning book. The homework is shared with pupils so that they can complete the tasks independently and are clear on what they need to do. Pupils are given a balance of recommended and optional extension activities. Pupils will be given regular opportunities to complete open-ended tasks. Open-ended tasks allow pupils to work at their own pace and level.

All children are expected to read at home every night and to keep a note of what they have read in their reading records. In addition to this, children are expected to practise their mental maths skills regularly.

3. How much homework do we expect a child to complete?

In the first few years at the school, pupils will be given little formal homework. However, by the time they leave school the children will have been used to a regular homework programme, preparing them for what is likely to be expected of them in Year 7. The importance of regular homework and the demands made upon the pupils will therefore increase as the children move up through the school, especially during their years in Key Stage 2.

Early Years

- An optional phonics activity is sent home on a weekly basis
- Families are expected to hear their child read, share a book with their child or read to their child for at least 10 minutes each day

Homework (Appendix 1)

Home Learning Book homework – maximum total time 1 hour

- A recommended phonics activity
- A recommended maths activity
- A recommended topic based or other activity

Other homework

- Parents are expected to hear their child read, share a book with a child or read to their child for at least 10 minutes each day

- Children must practise number bonds and times tables regularly

Warrenwood (Appendix 2)

Home Learning Book homework – maximum total time 1 ½ hours

- A recommended English activity
- A recommended Maths activity
- A recommended topic based or other activity

Other homework

- Families are expected to hear their child read, read to their child or encourage their child to read independently for 15 minutes each day
- Children must practise their number bonds and times tables regularly

Harefield

Home Learning Book homework – maximum total time 2 hours

- A recommended English activity
- A recommended Maths activity
- A recommended Science (or other) activity

Other homework

- Families are expected to hear their child read, read to their child or encourage their child to read independently for 20 minutes each day
- Children must practise their number bonds and times tables regularly
- Children must practise their weekly spellings
- In Spring and Summer terms of Year 6, the amount of homework may be increased to help pupils to prepare for secondary school.

4. How often will homework work be set?

When setting homework teachers should be aware of the additional demands which they will be making on the child (and on the family); they should be mindful of the pupil's needs and the home circumstances and try to ensure that their expectations are reasonable.

In Early Years optional phonics activities are sent home on Fridays.

In Homewood and Warrenwood Home Learning Books are sent home on the Friday for a return 11 days later on the Tuesday. This allows pupils two full weekends to complete activities and also allows teachers sufficient time to provide feedback before the next work is assigned.

In Harefield, Home Learning Books are sent home every Thursday for a return the following Tuesday.

5. What are the expectations for homework?

Homework is marked in line with the school's marking and feedback policy. A copy of the marking code is stuck into the cover of all Home Learning Books, as well as a set of 'Expectations for Homework' (Appendices 3 and 4).

6. Supporting Families

Families should see their role as being to encourage and support children in doing their homework, e.g. ensure that the appropriate time is spent on the work set and that suitable conditions are available in the home, not to do the work for them. Where teachers expect parents actively to help children with their work this should be made clear and if necessary parents should be given the appropriate help, advice and training to enable them to help effectively. Where relevant, notes should be made by the teacher in the “information for adult helping” section of Appendices 1 and 2.

The school runs a weekly homework club, for pupils who prefer to complete their homework at school or who are unable to complete homework at home due to other commitments, resources required or for any other reason, enabling all pupils to benefit from the learning opportunities the homework affords.

Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School KS1 Homework: Homewood

HOMEWORK SET ON FRIDAY add date

RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY add date

Phonics:

For phonics homework please complete the following activity:

Maths:

For maths homework please complete the following activity:

Other Activity:**Information for adult helping:**

Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School KS2 Homework: Warrenwood

HOMEWORK SET ON FRIDAY add date

RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY add date

English:

For English homework please complete the following activity:

Maths:

For maths homework please complete the following activity:

Other Activity:**Information for adult helping:**

Home Learning Book Expectations for KS1

- Reading and/or phonics practice should be done every day. Please write in the reading record to record what/when your child has read.
- Number skills such as; times tables, quick recall facts for adding and taking away, doubling and halving etc should be practiced on an ongoing basis.
Please see the curriculum letter for your child's class to see which skills they will need to practice.
- Home Learning Book challenges will be set on a Thursday, to be returned 'a week on Tuesday'. This gives a full week and 2 weekends for the tasks to be completed.
- Completed challenges can be handed in as soon as they are completed (*you don't need to wait for the due date*).
- You and your child must complete the phonics/spelling task and at least one of the other challenges set. (There will no longer be a separate list of words to learn)
- Children will be praised and rewarded for the challenges they complete.
- Teachers will mark the work handed in according to our marking code. (*Stuck in the back of this book*). Work not handed in on the correct day may not be marked until the following week.
- Your child can record their work in any way they wish, but do please glue it in the Home Learning Book if possible.

Home Learning Book Expectations for Warrenwood

- You should continue to listen to your child read every day.
- Children will need to also continue to practise their tables and number bonds weekly.
- Home Learning Book tasks will be set on a Friday, to be returned ‘a week on Tuesday’. This gives a full week and 2 weekends for the tasks to be completed. The teacher will remind the children and you of the date when the home learning is due in – it will be written on the Home Learning Book sheet.
- The children will be expected to complete at least one English and one Mathematics tasks that have been set by the class teacher.
- Children’s work will be rewarded and recognition will be made as to the effort that they have put into it.
- Teachers will mark the work handed in according to our marking code. Work not handed in on the correct day may not be marked until the following week.
- Your child can record their work in any way they wish. Please ensure that any loose sheets that are part of your child’s home learning are stuck into their Home Learning Book books.