



# SOUTHBOURNE JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Homework Policy

### Rationale

At Southbourne Junior School, homework supports a key theme of our school vision, ethos and values to *develop pupils as independent, aspirational lifelong learners*. We believe that homework plays an essential role in supporting pupils on their journey to independence and being able to self-regulate their own learning. It has huge potential in supporting our pupils in the memory process, enabling them to know, remember and understand more.

**Reading** is an important part of homework as it is an essential component of lifelong learning. Pupils in every year group are expected to read to an adult, at least 3 times a week, to develop decoding and comprehension skills, as well as children reading independently for pleasure and listening to stories for enjoyment.

The development of **mental maths** skills and instant recall of facts are integral to pupils' mental agility in maths lessons and beyond the classroom. Facts such as number bonds and times tables need constant practise and rehearsal for short periods of time, so pupils can recall them quickly and accurately.

Strong partnerships between home and school are essential in ensuring that homework impacts on outcomes for pupils. It is for this reason that the homework set is carefully planned to enhance and reinforce learning, allowing children to consolidate and improve their skills further.

### Homework is set in order to:

- Encourage pupils to establish good independent learning habits from the beginning of their school life, developing metacognitive skills and the self discipline needed to be lifelong learners.
- Consolidate, reinforce and extend pupils' knowledge and understanding of content covered in lessons.
- Develop pupils mastery of key skills that are needed in later years, the rehearsal and retrieval of skills and knowledge benefits learning and attainment.
- Involve parents/carers in their child's learning, creating channels for home-school dialogue.

### Therefore, homework at Southbourne Juniors will always meet at least one of these principles:

- Embed - consolidate learning that has taken place in the classroom, e.g. learning key knowledge and/or skills.
- Practice - refine knowledge and procedures learnt in the classroom based on feedback from the teacher.
- Extend - move learning beyond what has been achieved in the classroom e.g. adding breadth to existing knowledge.
- Apply - use learning from the classroom to complete a specific task.

### The school/Teachers will:

- Set short and focused tasks aimed at developing particular skills or concepts for them to be properly understood by pupils regularly. *Education Endowment Fund 2014*
- Set tasks which meet at least one of the school's guiding principles (see above).

- Differentiate tasks as teachers would ordinarily do in the classroom.
- Ensure that homework is not seen as an onerous task, with all parties recognising the value in the engagement of independent learning.
- Ensure homework is marked in line with the school's feedback and marking policy.
- Provide additional guidance to parents as required and signpost the curriculum overviews and learning journey grids published on the school website, as well as the Calculation Policy to aid in maths.

**Parents are expected to:**

- Support the school's homework policy when signing the Home School Agreement.
- Ensure their child has a suitable workspace at home to complete tasks without distractions, make homework a part of the daily routine.
- Enhance their child's home learning by engaging in conversations about the learning journey and the knowledge and understanding required to complete the task.
- Be given feedback on how their child is doing with homework through marking, during parent consultations and the annual progress report.
- Contact the school if they need additional copies of their child's homework.
- If a child struggles with an activity, try to avoid becoming anxious about it and approach your child's teacher as soon as you can. They will spend more time explaining the task to help you and your child.

**Children are expected to:**

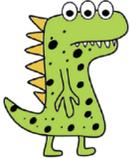
- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with.
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude.
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected.
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.

The way we approach homework is uniform across the school to avoid confusion for parents who have children in different year groups. In all classes, one maths and one reading task will be set and explained to children every Monday. Homework must be completed in homework books and returned to school the following Monday to be marked in class.

September 2023

Review: February 2025

$2.6 + 0.5 =$	Remember to log on to: - TTRS - Numbots  For more arithmetic practice visit <a href="http://myminimaths.co.uk">myminimaths.co.uk</a>  For more decimals practice visit <a href="http://corbettmathsprimary.com">corbettmathsprimary.com</a>
$1.57 + 8.9 =$	
$2.28 + 4.2 =$	
$9.52 + 4.7 =$	
$3.91 + 5.8 =$	

 <b>Spotter</b>  How many times have you read at home this week?	Choose one character from the book you are reading. Would you like to be friends with that character? Explain your reasoning using examples of their actions from the text.
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$9 \times 6 =$	Remember to log on to: - TTRS - Numbots  For more times table practice visit <a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button</a> or <a href="https://www.timestables.co.uk">https://www.timestables.co.uk</a>
$45 \div 9 =$	
$5 \times 9 =$	
4 lots of 9 =	
$81 \div 9 =$	

 <b>Clue Finder</b>  How many times have you read at home this week?	Think about the ending of 'xxxxxxxxxx', that we have just read in class. Describe how you think xxxxxxxx was feeling, and why.  As an extra challenge, explain to someone what your favourite part of this story was, and why.
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