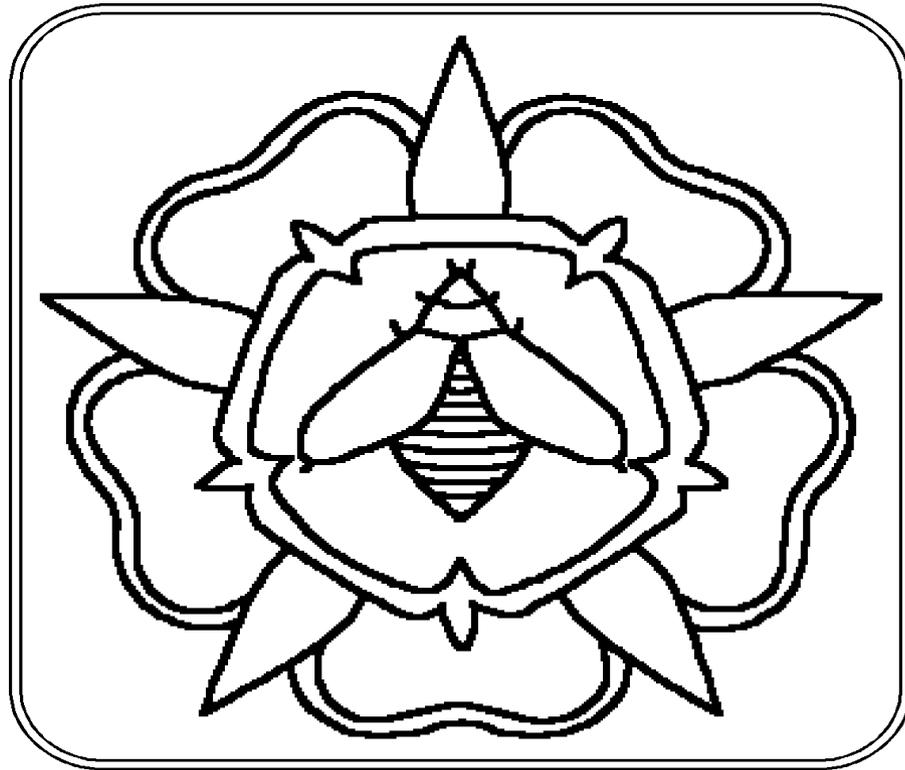


Round Hill Primary School



Participate, Excel, Be Proud!

Homework Policy

Reviewed by Adrian Nash and the SLT - November 2015
Created in Nov 2010 (Updated Oct 2011 and again in November 2015)

Signed byHead Teacher Date.....

Approved by..... Governor Date.....

Homework Policy – Summary Document for Parents/Carers

At Round Hill we believe that learning at home is a key part of the good education to which all our children are entitled. It helps to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers.

We firmly believe that **reading with your child is essential** and this should be seen as the most important element of any work you do with your child at home.

Educational activities are sent home on a regular basis with all children from our foundation unit to Year 6. (See below)

Foundation Stage

- Parents/carers attend a literacy workshop in September to find out how we teach literacy and how they can help at home
- All the children have a 'phonics pack' which includes phonemes and tricky words. These can be used at home to play games and back up work being done in the classroom.
- Reading books go home nightly

Key Stage 1

- Reading books and pupil planners go home nightly.
- Some spelling activities are taken home regularly; parents can practise these with the children to support their learning.
- Pupils are encouraged to bring items of relevance to projects they may be covering and discuss them.
- There are opportunities to share home experiences/hobbies (2 minute talk)
- Mathematics and 'Purple Mash' available to all children

Year 3 Year 4 children

- Reading books and pupil planners go home nightly.
- Typically children will be working on 3 different homework elements selected from science, topic, maths and English. Sometimes homework is set over a number of weeks to allow for more creative homework to be set.
- Children are expected to know all times tables by the end of Year 4. Up to the 12 times table.
- Mathematics and 'Purple Mash' available to all children

Year 5 and 6 children

In Year 5 & 6 children are encouraged to prepare for the next stage of their education. They are given a free choice in how to present their work in a home work book.

- Reading books and pupil planners go home nightly
- Selected pieces of extension work, which are to be completed at home
- Reinforcement of tables / other maths work
- Mathematics and 'Purple Mash' available to all children
- Curriculum Revision Booklets (Year 6)

For further information on this policy please read the following pages

Homework Policy

Outline of Development of Policy

This policy was developed over a period of time following on from the school OFSTED inspection in April 2010 (updated in 2015). The views of ALL pupils, parents/carers (parents' forum), and teachers were taken into consideration by the governing body (including OFSTED parent questionnaire) when formulating the policy.

At Round Hill we believe that learning at home is a key part of the good education to which all our children are entitled. It helps to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers.

Educational activities are sent home on a regular basis with all children from our foundation unit to Year 6.

The purpose of homework is to:

- provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together in partnership with school and to enjoy the learning experience.
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, especially in literacy and numeracy.
- extend and support the learning experience at school.
- encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own and prepare them for secondary school.

The role of parents/carers in supporting pupils

Parents/carers are encouraged to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework
- Make it clear to pupils that they value homework and give support and help when necessary
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed their homework
- Read and sign the 'Home School Agreement' which includes a statement encouraging parent/carers to support their children in the completion of homework.

Guidelines

The timings below are based on the Government recommendations for the amount of time children should spend on homework:

- **Year 1 & 2** - 1 hour per week
- **Year 3 & 4** - 1 hour 30 minutes per week
- **Year 5 & 6** – 20/30 minutes per day

Reading

We believe daily reading should be done as part of homework. If the homework activity is something other than reading, children should be encouraged, in addition, to read - on their own or with others - for at least 20 minutes per day (less for infants).

Spelling

Children will investigate spelling patterns at school and may well bring lists related to this work to learn at home. There are also list of words in the children's planner from the National Curriculum that can be used for spelling practice at home.

KS2 Homework Club

One day per week a KS2 homework club runs for children who have been unable to complete their homework. This is run by an adult and includes a group of trained volunteer Yr 6 children. Their role will include supporting children who are struggling with their work.

Children who have not completed their homework will be encouraged to attend the club.

Regular Feedback

Teachers will always give feedback to any child who has completed his or her homework. This may not always be in the form of a written comment on the work. Sometimes the homework is shared with other children to encourage self and peer assess. Good homework will be celebrated and the positives will be focused upon.

Extension Activities

Continuing from the above, teachers often send homework which is open ended; this is a means of facilitating some children who want to do more. If this is your child, please feel free to extend the activity even further or take it off in another direction. Please remember, the intention is not to limit a child, but to encourage independence.

Link with after school club – Roundabout

There is a dedicated area at 'Roundabout' to complete homework task where children are encouraged to spend a small amount of quality time doing their homework.

Other out of school activities

In addition to the areas covered in the policy, parents are encouraged to involve their children in a variety of outside school activities, some of which are provided by the school's extra curricular programme. P.E. activities, music, drama and French clubs are all active in the area and a lot of our children learn new skills and build up self-confidence by being part of an outside school group or team. Please ask at the school office if you would like more information about extracurricular activities and they will pass your request onto a member of staff who will contact you.

Use of computers for homework

We encourage children to use our 'Virtual Learning Environment' (VLE). This is an extension of the school website and will allow children access to electronic resources.

Talk Homework

In order to be able to write effectively children must first be able to articulate their thoughts. This is based on the premiss that if 'children can't say it then they can't write it'. Therefore to enable parents to be involved in their children's writing we have weekly 'talk' homework in which parents are asked to have a discussion about the weeks topic for Let's Write in order to stimulate ideas for the writing.

What happens if the homework is too hard?

Although teachers do their best to ensure that all homework is matched to the level of your child there are times when homework can be seen as too easy or too hard. If this is the case and your child is struggling to complete a task then firstly encourage them to be independent and talk to the teacher about the difficulties they are having. Secondly, if you *persistently* find that the homework is too hard/easy then contact your child's class teacher to discuss the issues. If you have concerns about your child's educational needs and you would like further information or support please ask your child's teacher to refer you to the school's Inclusion Manager who may be able to help with more specialist advice. Alternatively please feel free to contact the Inclusion Manager through the school office.

Parent/Carer Workshops

A parent/carer workshop will run at least once per year. There will be an opportunity for parents to see children and teachers modelling the strategies we use in school and the chance to ask questions on how to support your child at home

Curriculum Overview

A curriculum overview can be found on the school website which identifies the work to be covered. (Paper copies are available) This includes information about the term's topic work that can be supported by help at home.

Swimming

It is an important area to ensure children are able to swim. There is a National Curriculum requirement that the children should be able to swim 25 metres by the end of Key stage 2. This will not ensure children's safety in any open water and parents/carers are encouraged to treat this area of their children's development as an important after school activity.

Adrian Nash

Updated Nov 2015 (Version 1 Nov 2010 and V2 Oct 2011)