Hermitage Primary School

Homework Policy

Approved by:	SLT
Last reviewed on:	September 2026
Next review due by:	September 2027

Why set Homework?

Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of lessons. Homework activities and time spent learning outside of lessons vary depending on the age of pupils.

The EEF (Education Foundation Endowment) states homework has a positive impact of +3 months in primary school settings.

The quality of task set appears to be more important than the quantity of work required by the pupil. The studies show that the highest impact homework is set twice weekly in a particular subject. Evidence suggests that homework relating to learning in school time is important.

Context

All children at Hermitage Primary School are set homework.

The amount and the type of activity depend upon the age and the attainment of the child. Children are provided with a varied range of experiences appropriate to their ability and needs.

We view homework to provide pupils opportunities to consolidate and apply foundational knowledge.

Homework provides opportunities for children to:

- Reinforce foundational knowledge in core subjects
- Prioritise reading
- Access easily
- Practice multiplication tables
- Practice number bonds
- Practice spellings by learning spelling rules and patterns
- Revise in preparation for assessments
- Prepare children for the next stage of their education.

Implementation

Responsibilities

Head teacher – to ensure that there is an effective homework policy and that it is implemented and funded appropriately.

Class Teacher – is responsible for setting and reviewing homework as well as ensuring that instructions for homework are clear and consistent. Homework activities are recorded on the class website pages. Staff discuss homework with parents during parent's meetings at the beginning of each academic year.

Attitudes

All children will be encouraged to form positive attitudes towards independent learning at home. They will be supported and encouraged by teachers. Teachers adopt a sensitive attitude towards children who occasionally might not be able to complete homework tasks due to extenuating circumstances at home and will support them to complete this

in school.

Inclusion

All pupils regardless of ability, race or gender will be given equal opportunities for the development of homework skills. We will ensure that materials and resources used are unbiased, relevant and at an appropriate level.

We value communication between teachers and parents about homework activities.

Homework Schedule

Regular patterns of homework will be in place. A familiar routine is helpful for children, teachers and parents. The schedule for homework is on the class website page, and this is explained at the September Welcome Morning by all teachers.

Monitoring

To support monitoring of homework we will use several documents:

- Reading diaries – supporting the home/school link with reading (EYFS, KS1 and KS2)
- Class page on the school website
- Spelling books and Quiz Scores
- Data monitoring on Homework Platforms – TTRockstars/Numbots
- Marking books in class.

Purchasing

On an annual basis, money is budgeted for the replacement of consumables including:

- Spelling books
- Reading Diaries
- CGP Books
- TTRockstars Subscription
- Numbots Subscription

EYFS & Year 1

When setting homework, we aim for children to be able to practice essential foundational skills that they are learning in school. We see this as valuable preparation for the future and as a way of involving parents in their child's learning. EYFS and KS1 homework tasks are always reading, phonics, handwriting, spelling and number activities. Details of homework activities can be found on class pages on the school website.

Reading and Phonics
The children take home books to read at home, and parents are encouraged to record the books shared in their reading diaries a minimum of three times each week. There is a whole school reward system for home reading. If children read three times they will receive a stamp on their bookmark in class; if they read more than three times each week they will receive two stamps. Once their bookmark is complete, they are presented with a certificate in our weekly Thrive Celebration Assembly. When appropriate, key word lists and phonics charts are sent home. There is information about our phonics scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds, on the school website.

Maths
In Maths the children are expected to use Numbots for 20 minutes each week. This is an online platform for securing foundational number skills.

Year 2

Reading
The children take home books to read at home, and parents are encouraged to record the books shared in their reading diaries a minimum of three times each week. There is a whole school reward system for home reading. If children read three times they will receive a stamp on their bookmark in class; if they read more than three times each week they will receive two stamps. Once their bookmark is complete, they are presented with a certificate in our weekly Thrive Celebration Assembly.

Spelling and Phonics
Children receive a weekly word list of ten spellings to practice. The words are linked to the National Curriculum expectations for Year 2. Lists are linked to the patterns or rules being taught in school and 'tricky' words from our Phonics scheme.

Maths
In Maths the children are expected to use Numbots for 20 minutes each week. This is an online platform for securing foundational number skills. From Summer Term, times tables homework is set on the online 'TT Rockstars'. The expectation is that children practise their tables at least 3 times a week, spending 30 minutes each week on the platform.

KS2 – Years 3 -5

Reading
The children take home books to read at home, and parents are encouraged to record the books shared in their reading diaries a minimum of three times each week. There is a whole school reward system for home reading. If children read three times they will receive a stamp on their bookmark in class; if they read more than three times each week they will receive two stamps. Once their bookmark is complete, they are presented with a certificate in our weekly Thrive Celebration Assembly.

Spelling
Children receive a weekly word list of ten spellings to practice. The words are linked to the National Curriculum expectations for Year 2. Lists are linked to the patterns or rules being taught in school and words from the statutory spelling lists in the National Curriculum.

Maths

In Maths, the children should practice their times tables on 'TT Rockstars'. The expectation is that children practice their times tables at least 3 times a week, spending a minimum of 30 minutes per week on the platform.

Year 6

Revision: Children in Year 6 will be given revision books to complete at home. This will usually be in the form of SATs style questioning and revision of previous units taught. They will have books for Maths, SPaG and Reading and complete pages in each book, each week at home. The expectation is that they will spend up to 20 minutes working in each book each week at home. Answers will be marked in class together with the teacher.