

## **Dilton Marsh Church of England Primary School Homework Policy.**

### **The aims and purpose of this policy are:**

- To ensure that the homework set fits within the scope of the teaching and learning policy, and that the work is in keeping with the aims, values and ethos of our school
- To communicate to children, parents, staff and governors the expectations and roles in terms of homework
- To clarify the purposes of homework, including;
  1. Developing the skills and attitudes of independent learners, eg. Research skills, time management and problem solving
  2. Developing the partnership between home and school, eg. Providing information for parents and opportunities for parental co-operation and support

### **The principles of homework:**

- The policy needs to involve pupils, parents and teachers in a partnership process to be fully effective
- Homework tasks should be included in planning and time set aside to deliver/explain work to children. The session should be on the class timetable
- Tasks should match children's needs
- Homework should compliment class work, eg. practicing skills learnt in lesson time, not just completing classroom tasks
- Clear explanations should be given for the tasks set and the teacher must ensure that all children understand the learning intention prior to taking the work home
- Homework should be reviewed and feedback given, with targets for future learning where appropriate
- Progress in learning skills should be planned

### **Tasks:**

The homework set will follow a three weekly rolling programme:

- **Week 1 – Formal homework.** This will include one piece of literacy and/or one piece of Numeracy. The work will be based on class work and use skills taught in lesson time and be completed in a homework book
- **Week 2 – Creative tasks.** This will be an open-ended art, design or research based piece of work that may need to be presented in an imaginative way.
- **Week 3 - No formal homework will be set.**

In addition: children will be given weekly spellings to practice at home and we would recommend that children read aloud for 20 minutes at least 3 times a week to an adult and read for at least 20 minutes each day to themselves. Where appropriate basic maths skills eg. times tables may need to be practiced at home.

## **Expectations and Roles/Entitlements**

### **Teachers are expected to:**

- Ensure parents and pupils understand that the purpose of homework is to maximize children s' learning opportunities
- Provide work which meets the needs of the children and check that they understand the task set
- Set differentiated tasks as necessary
- Set clear expectations of what is required, including content and presentation (see Appendix 1)
- Give clear deadlines for work to be handed in and mark it promptly
- Provide feedback to children
- Report standards achieved to parents

### **Children are expected to:**

- Check what they need to do if they are unsure
- Do homework to as high a standard as possible, completing their work in either pencil or blue/black handwriting pen unless otherwise specified
- Ensure work is their own - pages printed from the internet are not research in themselves!
- Hand homework in on time
- Sign the homework when complete and make comments as necessary

### **Parents are expected to:**

- Support their children without doing the work for them
- Take an active interest in their child's life at school and the work set
- Ensure homework is completed and handed in on time

### **How can parents support their children in doing their homework?**

1. Make sure that your child has a quiet place to sit, preferably at a table to complete their work
2. Remind your child to read for at least 20 minutes each day and you hear them read at least 3 times a week – less confident readers will benefit from being listened to by parents every day; more confident readers will also enjoy talking to parents about the books they read
3. Take an interest in their homework tasks and talk about how they are going to do them
4. Help check work for spelling, punctuation and grammar errors.
5. Help your child to learn their spellings and their meanings.
6. Practice tables with your child until you are sure they know them accurately.
7. Encourage your child to do his/her best:
  - Take pride in his/her work
  - Ensure adequate sleep so that they are able to learn effectively

## **Homework Policy KS1 and KS2**

### **Appendix 1**

Homework should be completed to a high standard. This means:

- Clean hands
- Use of appropriate equipment e.g. rulers
- Work to be completed in either pencil or handwriting pen as specified by the teacher
- If appropriate draw a margin
- Underline dates and titles
- If a mistake is made, put a bracket around the error and cross out using one neat line, drawn faintly with a ruler
- Take pride in each piece of work

These guidelines will be put into children s' homework books as a reminder of the standards expected.