



**HOPE WOOD
ACADEMY**

HOPE WOOD ACADEMY

HOME WORK POLICY

JANUARY 2016

Aims of Policy

- To provide a clear definition of the purpose and nature of homework at Hope Wood.
- To identify our shared views of good practice.
- To establish how homework will be organised and how we ensure progression across the school.
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of those involved.
- To make clear the ways in which we aim to ensure that the policy makes an important contribution to the quality of teaching and learning in the academy.

Definition

At Hope Wood we view homework as being a supported or independent task undertaken outside of curriculum time which reinforces, extends or enriches current learning.

Purpose

The purpose of homework at Hope Wood is to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning. It enables children to practise and consolidate skills and aims to broaden the context of learning and provide enrichment and extension. Finally, it aims to enable children to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance.

Expectations

We expect all teachers to set homework that is the appropriate level for each child. However, if parents and carers choose not to complete homework we will not demand that children complete this at home. Some tasks will take the form of games that can be played in the car or whilst shopping that children may not even recognise as 'homework', whilst other aspects of homework can be completed in homework club. We understand that sometimes mixing home and school can cause anxieties and stress for some young people and therefore we will not insist all homework is completed. Therefore we feel that homework activity is something that parents and carers can choose to engage with where they feel it is conducive to their child's progress and well-being. We will not reprimand children who do not complete homework, but will take the time to praise those who do.

Good practice

At Hope Wood, we believe that the following principles underpin good practice.

- A variety of approaches are used to ensure that parents/carers and children are aware of homework expectations and organisation. These can include meetings, booklets etc.
 - Homework allocations are made clear.
 - Homework is set in a structured way to help children develop regular study patterns (with parental help if needed).
 - There is regular feedback and praise for completed work, and an understanding where children are unable to manage homework or parents find it too difficult to organise for homework.
 - In planning homework, teachers set clear learning intentions and tasks are appropriate.
 - Each child is provided with a Home School Learning Diary in which they will record tasks set.
- The policy is reviewed regularly with the Academy Improvement Plan.

Why is it set?

The purpose of homework at Hope Wood for primary children is.....

- To provide opportunities for parents to be involved in children's learning.
- To enable children to practise and consolidate skills.
- To provide opportunities for parents to contribute to learning journals and progress books.

How you can help:

Work through the termly tasks and games with your child.

Feedback to the teacher in home/school books or via email about how your child responded

Evidence their learning experiences and achievements at home through photos, video or writing

The purpose of homework at Hope Wood for secondary children is.....

- To provide opportunities for parents to be involved in children's learning.
- To enable children to practise and consolidate skills.
- To broaden the context of learning and provide enrichment and extension.
- To enable children to take responsibility for their own learning, become more independent and develop perseverance.
-
- To contribute course work for accredited courses

How you can help:

- Provide a quiet area where your child can work. It is helpful to switch off the TV to aid concentration.
- Offer your help and support for children to complete tasks.
- Expect older children to work independently, but make it clear that you are there if needed.
- Encourage your child to complete homework on the day set, as the task will have just been explained. If they leave it until the day before it is due in, they may find that they need resources that they do not have to hand. The setting of homework several days in advance enables children to develop skills in organising their time. Younger children will need your support in moving towards this.
- Check your child's Home School Learning Diary regularly.
- Take an interest in the homework and encourage your child to take a pride in the presentation of written tasks. Work should be handwritten by your child in pencil or a suitable handwriting pen, unless directed otherwise by your child's class teacher.

Range of Activities

A variety of tasks are used to meet planned learning objectives. These can include:

- ✓ Speaking and listening activities
- ✓ Reading
- ✓ Spelling and word investigations
- ✓ Book reviews
- ✓ Reading comprehension
- ✓ Independent research
- ✓ Practical maths investigations
- ✓ Collecting items linked to a theme
- ✓ Skills practice across a range of areas
- ✓ Educational games

Organisation

Progression is planned from EYFS to Key Stage Four through the provision of appropriate activities and the increasing expectations we have of our children as they move up through the school.

In EYFS, and primary department, children are expected to complete a task or activity linked to the Early Years curriculum, which lasts for around 10 minutes. This will include language and communication, reading and counting tasks and games that parents can do with their child.

In KS3 there is an expectation for children to read for around 15 minutes and practise spellings daily. Reading books will be sent home daily and a list of spellings will be sent home at the start of each half term. In addition, students will have a mathematics and English workbook that they will use every week to complete a task. These can be completed at home or in our weekly homework club at lunchtime.

These workbooks need to be sent back and forth to school with children and there is a replacement cost for books lost. Please help by ensuring that your child has these workbooks with them in their school bags daily.

As children move into Key Stage 4, they are expected to take increasing responsibility themselves for the completion of their homework. Most homework will be linked to a qualification or course of study.

Roles and Responsibilities

Class teachers will plan purposeful activities with clear learning intentions, which are linked to the curriculum content. They will respond to children's efforts, providing encouragement and reward.

Parents and carers have an important role in supporting children's efforts. If parents and carers wish to work with their child in the home environment, it is useful to have their feedback and comments as to their child's understanding and ability to complete the task independently.

Children are responsible for completing tasks as requested (with increasing independence as they move through the school) and to take responsibility for organising any information or equipment they require.

Responding to children and ensuring that homework is completed

In Primary and KS3, children are awarded stickers and names are placed on a rewards board as well as receiving Hope Wood stars. Good examples of completed tasks are shared with the class with consent of the young person.

In key stage 4, students are made aware that homework and coursework are part of their accreditation.

DRAFT

DRAFT

What does it look like?

Homework involves a range of activities including the following:



DRAFT

What do I do if I have a query?

If your child has a problem completing the homework or you have any questions, please call in and see the class teacher or write a note in the Home School Learning Diary. We will do all that we can to resolve the problem. Your support in the process is much appreciated in encouraging a home-school dialogue about learning.

We hope that this information has been helpful.

DRAFT