

*Mission Statement* "A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together."

# HOMEWORK PROCEDURE – BUNBURY ALDERSEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Article 29 – Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment.

This procedure has been prepared by the Principal and staff in consultation with the parents and agreement from the governing body.

#### <u>Aims</u>

Homework is an important tool in consolidating learning and enhancing the curriculum for children. It is a vital aspect of the partnership between home and school. At Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School we value family time and recognise the importance of quality family interaction. We therefore set homework tasks which lend themselves both to whole family participation or independent completion.

In line with what we know to be most effective, the majority of homework will concentrate on the consolidation of key English and Maths skills.

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective, parents, carers, staff and the children need to understand its purpose:

- To reinforce basic skills in English and Maths through worthwhile activities
- To promote independent learning and self discipline
- To encourage children to take responsibility for their own learning
- To encourage children to share their learning experience with parents and carers

## **Our Homework Programme**

Each child will receive a reading diary and homework journal in order to complete homework tasks.

Reading – daily reading is given a high priority from reception to year 6. Children across the school will be expected to read at least 5 times per week. Reading entries will be recorded in a reading diary which all the children will be provided with. Each half term class teachers will also issue a list of recommended reading both fiction and non-fiction linked to the connected curriculum theme.

Spelling – Children will receive a spelling list of age appropriate high frequency words at the start of each term to learn. Using our booklet 'Helping your child to spell' the children need to work on learning around 8 words per week. This maybe in addition to spelling patterns from staged spelling groups where words are tested weekly.

Mathletics – Children will receive a weekly online maths task related to learning which has taken place that week in school

Times tables – Children will receive specific times tables to learn in each year group. Year 2 - 2x,5x,10x with an awareness of 3x and 4x, Year 3 - as in year 2 plus 3x,4x,8x, Year 4 - all times tables plus an awareness of related division facts, Year 5 and 6 all times tables with related division facts.

Home learning projects – As part of our inclusive connected curriculum, all classes will be asked to complete a home learning project once a half term. These projects, Take away homework, are linked to the class learning theme and children have a choice of which task they wish to complete at home. We believe that these projects are a great opportunity for parents/carers to work alongside their child, enhancing their learning experience. The projects are shared and celebrated with other classes.

Knowledge organiser – Key facts, information and vocabulary linked to the area of learning in class for that half term/ term. Children will be expected to know some of the facts and use these key words within their learning.

Year 6 – There may be times in year 6 when further homework will be set to extend and reinforce the learning in the classroom.

## **Emotional Health and Well – being**

As a Rights Respecting School we are passionate that all children have the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities – article 31. As part of our commitment to emotional health and wellbeing we will also be providing the children with a booklet '101 things to do before 11 and 3/4 ' which will focus on developing personal and social skills.

## **Responsibilities**

## Pupils:

- All children will be expected to complete tasks independently during the half terms.
- Children should try their best when completing homework tasks
- Children should ask for help as appropriate
- Gain increased motivation and enjoyment through independent home learning

#### Parents:

- Provide a suitable place where your child can do their home learning
- Encourage and value independent home learning
- Provide activities that support the learning set by the teacher
- Ensure and check that tasks are completed and to a suitable standard
- Be actively involved in joint homework and activities with the children

## Teachers:

- Set spelling/ times table lists at the start of every term
- May set weekly spellings based on the pattern for their teaching group
- Set Take away homework activities at the start of every half term
- Set weekly Mathletics for each child and print out certificates consistently
- Provide adequate and appropriate feedback to pupils through praise and encouragement
- Feedback to parents on pupils homework formally at parents evening and through school reports
- Set high expectations of pupils in completing homework

## Headteacher:

- Promote the school homework policy to staff, parents and pupils
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy
- Review the policy yearly to ensure that it is meeting the needs of all our pupils

## Administration of homework

Each child will receive a reading diary and homework journal in order to complete homework tasks.

Spelling lists will be sent home at the start of every term with an expectation that the pupils learn 8 words a week. Teachers will monitor the home learning at the end of every half term by collecting in the homework journals and signing the inside cover. A log will be kept of pupil's participation, effort in homework and ability to work independently. This will be fed back to parents/carers at parent's evenings and through the school report.

Times tables will be sent home at the start of every term with an expectation that the pupils will learn these tables fluently so that they can be recalled in any order. Teachers will monitor the home learning at the end of every half term by collecting in the homework books.

Mathletics will be set weekly on a Monday and relate to the current learning in the classroom. Children will have 7 days to complete the task. Teachers will monitor homework completion and a lunchtime club will be offered to those who do not have access to a computer or those who have not completed the tasks. This will be run by Ms Charlesworth for KS1 and Mrs Badger for KS2. Certificates will be monitored and celebrated and any gold awards will be presented in Friday morning worship.

Take away homework and Knowledge organisers will be set in the first week of every half term. Children are to choose 1 task from the Takeaway list and complete to a high standard. This will then be shared and celebrated in the final week of each half term around the school. A celebration date will be communicated for each half term. Facts, information and vocabulary from the knowledge organiser will be used regularly during connected curriculum lessons.

## **Guidance for parents and carers**

Any help that parents and carers feel able to offer their children at home is really worthwhile. Helping a child with homework can and should be a positive experience. The individual attention a parent/carer can give, even if only for a short time, can help motivate a child, build their confidence and self-esteem and help them progress.

When helping a child with homework it is important to make this as stress free, constructive and enjoyable an experience as possible. Most children become unsettled if their parents/carers show too much anxiety or make

obvious comparisons with siblings or friends. Make it clear to the children that you value learning at home and are interested in their reading and other tasks. Encourage and praise the children when they have completed their homework. It is important that homework reflects the true ability of the child.

All adults need to remember that children make lots of mistakes. Making mistakes is essential in order to learn. Mistakes do need to be put right, but not necessarily all at once.