



STICKLEPATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY ACADEMY Homework Policy

At Sticklepath we acknowledge that children take part in many activities with their families and friends outside of school hours that provide rich learning opportunities.

Play provides a crucial opportunity for learning. Nursery rhymes, stories, cards and board games are all activities that greatly enhance learning. Trips to the shops and library can have a huge impact on their love of learning as well as the experiences that are created by visiting new places. Homework can also play a key part in this. At Sticklepath, we look to combine this time with family where possible, as this strong commitment of parental involvement is a great way of developing this positive relationship.

Statutory Requirements

There are currently no statutory requirements for the amount of homework that should be set in primary schools.

Why do we give homework?

- It supports and develops our schools core value of growth mindsets by acknowledging that learning is something that goes beyond the school day and is a lifelong skill.
- It can inform parents about work going on in class so that they can play an active role in their child's learning;
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning by allowing the child to experience the joy of learning with their family or in a home setting;
- It can be a great source for gathering topic information to share with all their peers;
- It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables, doubling facts, addition sums, spellings, handwriting and other key facts;
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Types and amount of homework

We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school.

Foundation stage – Reception: (approximately 1 hr each week)

- Flash cards of high frequency words sent home to support colour book bands.
- Reading daily.

Key Stage One: (approximately 1 and a half hours each week)

- Weekly spellings
- Reading daily
- Flash cards of high frequency words sent home to support colour book bands where needed
- A homework book containing a weekly summary of learning will be sent home on a Friday. This will be followed by a short task for parents to do with their child. The task will usually be practical and will reinforce an aspect of the learning that week. Parents will be able to add comments if they wish and the book should be returned by Wednesday the following week.

Years 3 and 4: (approximately two hours per week)

- Weekly spellings and maths task

- Reading daily – 3 X a week to or with an adult. At this stage, sometimes modelling good reading is as important as the child reading to an adult.
- A subject (could be topic/foundation or core subject) overview sent home to parents with a task to complete
- Homework books will be sent home on a Friday with a weekly summary of learning. This will aim to reinforce an aspect of the learning that week. Parents will be able to add comments if they wish and the book should be returned by Wednesday the following week.

Years 5 and 6 (Approximately 30 minutes a day)

- Termly spellings
- Reading daily – 2 X a week with an adult. A weekly personal reading record kept.
- Topic work will be set as and when required. This may include choices or could be gathering research to share at the start of their learning.
- Homework books will be sent home on a Friday with a weekly summary of learning. Up to two pieces of homework will be set based around the core subjects. This will aim to reinforce key aspects of the learning that week. Parents will be able to add comments if they wish and the book should be returned by Wednesday the following week.

*Children in year 6 may be given more if it is felt it will support their learning as they approach the SATs (e.g practice books). They will also have access to study ladder, an online maths program.

Quality of homework

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and write using a handwriting pen or sharp pencil (depending on what they usually use in class). If you do not have the resources at home please see your child's teacher who will be able to help.

What will happen if children don't complete their homework?

It is worth noting that when children deliberately do not attempt to do homework (and this does not include when family emergencies occur or if there is a justifiable reason), children will be required to remain in during their own break/play time to complete their work. Allowing one child to opt out of doing homework, whilst everyone else is expected to complete it, causes bad feeling amongst a class. It also sets unrealistic expectations for deadlines as they get older. We therefore make it very clear that we expect everyone to be treated equally and all children are required to complete homework.

Additional Information for Parents

Homework tasks should be matched appropriately to the ability of your child. If they do find the work too difficult or too

easy, please do draw this to the attention of the class teacher. We welcome your comments in the homework book s about how your child has coped with a task.

If completing homework causes problems, please discuss the difficulties with the class teacher. There is a homework club on Wednesday during lunchtimes that can support children during difficult times or if they have struggled to complete it in the time.

Our staff hope that you can support us in getting the balance right. We want to work together with you to do help your child be the best they can possibly be and reach their full potential. If you have any concerns about the homework set please do come in and see your child's teacher.

<i>As a matter of policy and practice Sticklepath Community School carries out an equality impact assessment (EIA) to ensure a policy does not, even inadvertently, disadvantage groups of pupils with protected characteristics, in compliance with para 1.4.17 of the school Equality Policy, logged below:</i>	
<i>Policy Name: Marking, Feedback and Presentation Policy</i>	<i>Review Date: June 2019 Reviewed January 2016 July 2016 June 2018</i>
<i>Approved Date: 13.07.2015</i>	<i>EqIA Completed Date: 13.07.2015</i>
<i>Approved By: SMT</i>	<i>EqIA Completed By: SWA</i>
<i>Author: SWA/RBL</i>	<i>Monitoring & Evaluation By: RBL</i>