



Signed.....*C. H. Knight*

Date.....December 2020

Review...December 2022

Woodford Valley C E Primary Academy Homework Policy

Woodford Valley CE Primary Academy is committed to creating the ethos in which children can grow towards Christian life, learning and love.

And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.”
John 13 34-35

Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. The government has made clear its commitment to homework in the 1997 White Paper, 'Excellence in Schools', where homework was seen as an 'essential part of good education'. Ofsted will expect to see that 'Teachers set challenging homework, in line with the school's policy and as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come.' *School Inspection Handbook 2016.*

We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly, therefore, from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed, we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the

Amount of homework

We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school. We expect Key Stage 1 children to spend approximately one hour a week doing homework, which may include reading with an adult. We expect children in Years 3 and 4 to spend approximately one and a half to two hours per week on homework and children in Years 5 and 6 to spend approximately two to two and a half hours a week to include reading, learning spellings and times tables.

This is in line with the DfE guidelines that were issued in 1998.

The role of pupils

We give all the children a reading record book or school homework diary where the pupil records the homework and where pupils, parents and teachers make any relevant comments. Pupils must ensure they record homework when set and always have their diary in school.

Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

We set homework for children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special education needs or disabilities, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

The role of parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

We ask parents to check the home/school diary at least once a week and to sign it as requested.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the Head Teacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented; parents should contact the Governing Body.

Monitoring and review

It is the responsibility of our Governing Body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the Governing Body that

deals with curriculum issues. The Governing Body pays careful consideration to any concerns raised regarding homework and may, at any time, request from our Head Teacher a report on the way homework is organised in our school.