

HOMEWORK POLICY



At Banff Primary School we believe that homework enhances pupil learning, improves achievement and develops study skills. It encourages each child to take responsibility for their own learning.

Homework creates positive and meaningful communication between home and school and provides an opportunity for parents/carers to be involved in the child's learning.

Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents/carers and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school.

AIMS:

- To enable pupils to apply, consolidate and extend skills and learning
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- To encourage self motivated learning and independence
- To provide opportunities for children to use out of school resources (e.g. books and computers) found in the home or other places such as libraries;
- To encourage children and parents to share and enjoy the learning experience

Teachers will

- Set appropriate, differentiated homework
- Ensure that pupils have a clear understanding of the tasks set.
- Allow an element of personal choice
- Review the homework and give feedback to pupils (peer and self assessment strategies will also be used)
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- Recognise the right of pupils to have time to relax and take part in a wide variety of activities outwith school

Homework tasks:

Homework will be closely linked to the work being covered in class.

Homework will generally include reading, maths, spelling, writing and / or topic-based research.

Pupils will be encouraged to:

- Organise a routine for completing homework, which takes account of their after school activities
- Complete tasks fully and hand them in on time
- Use a variety of sources to gather information
- Choose a suitable and attractive way to present their work
- Develop independence and self motivation when completing tasks

Parents can support their child by:

- Showing an interest in their child's homework
- Using praise and encouragement to ensure tasks are completed well
- Checking and signing completed homework and reading records
- Speaking to the teacher if they have any concerns over homework
- Discussing their child's reading book
- Encouraging their child to read a variety of texts at home

Timing of homework

At Banff Primary, we recognise the need for routine and regularity of homework assignments. Therefore:

- Homework will usually be issued on a Monday and should be returned on a Friday. (During the year there may be occasions when this routine is unavoidably changed e.g. Christmas.)
- Reading will be given at least twice a week
- Some pupils, especially P1 pupils, benefit greatly from practising reading daily, at home
- Homework will not usually be given in the first or final week of each term.

Upper stage classes may well have longer pieces to work on over a few weeks.

How much time to spend each week

As a rough guide

P1 and P2 should spend 1 hour a week, including reading.

P3 and P4 would be expected to spend about 1hr 30 mins a week (including reading)

P5 and P6 may have **up to** two hours per week (including reading)

P7 may have up to 2 hours 30 minutes as they prepare for transition to Banff Academy

Absences from School

It is not school policy to provide children with work to be completed during holidays taken during term time.

Children may be encouraged to keep a diary of their holiday, which can be shared with the class on their return.

In **exceptional** circumstances, the teacher may provide school work to be completed at home. This would only be with the approval of the SMT.

Monitoring

- The Homework policy is reviewed regularly.
- Homework plans and evaluations are reviewed termly by SMT
- A selection of homework from every class is monitored each session.