

# Homework Policy

Oasis Academy Shirley Park Primary Phase

Implementation: September 2018

Review Date: July 2019 – Jo Botley

Review Date: September 2021 – Laura Evry Review Date: September 2022 – Laura Evry

Review Date: September 2023 – Laura Evry

# **HOMEWORK POLICY**

#### Introduction

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside the normal school day, on their own or with parents / carers.

Homework can encompass a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers to support learning

#### Rationale for homework

Homework is widely accepted as an essential and valuable element of learning, adding much to a child's development.

The Government made a clear commitment to homework in the 1997 White Paper, "Excellence in Schools", where homework was seen as "an essential part of good education." Research over a number of years has shown that homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at school and therefore assist in the raising of a child's level of attainment.

We also acknowledge the important role of sleep, healthy eating, play and free-time in a child's growth and development. Homework should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in their lives

# Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- ➤ To enable children to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- > To help pupils to develop the skills of an independent learner
- To help children develop good work habits for the future and preparing them for the requirements of Secondary school
- > To consolidate and reinforce the learning that has taken place in school
- To allow children to practice skills taught in the lesson
- > To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth
- > To provide educational experiences not possible in school
- > To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting the child's learning
- To encourage exploration of local cultural and outdoor activities

# The Role of Parents

At Oasis Academy Shirley Park — Primary Phase, we recognise that the development of the whole child is a partnership and that children can benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. In fact, we consider homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. For homework to be effective, schools need to be able to count on parental involvement and support. At the beginning of each term, teachers will upload a curriculum map onto the school website, giving information on the half term's learning. Parents are encouraged to use the information to support their child's learning.

#### We ask that parents:

- Offer encouragement to their children
- Discuss the requirements of the set task
- Offer help and support for the tasks set
- Provide a suitable environment for the completion of homework tasks
- Provide suitable tools and equipment that allow for good presentation
- Assist their children in accessing suitable resources and materials, possibly by visiting the library or using the Internet
- Offer praise or constructive criticism for the finished product
- > Sign and date the homework passport
- Contact the class teacher if they have any problems or queries about homework that has been set
- ➤ General issues about homework should be addressed to the class teacher in the first instance and then to the phase leader

# The Type and Amount of Homework

All homework will preview, review or enrich school learning.

# Nursery

- Reading to your child daily
- Termly homework passports (see below) based on topic
- Talk Homework

#### Reception

- Reading to your child daily
- Termly homework passports (see below) based on topic
- Talk Homework

# Years 1 to 6

• Termly homework passports (example below). These cover basic skills, reading a book, suggestions for visits, a creative activity and other pertinent tasks.



- Reading daily
- Weekly spellings
- Weekly maths tasks
- Additional bespoke tasks according to need
- Summer holiday homework passports

Children receive certificates for their homework passport completion.

# **Pupils with Special Educational Needs**

Homework that is set comprises of open-ended activities that meet the needs of all children.

#### Monitoring and Review

The efficiency and effectiveness of the homework policy needs to be monitored and evaluated. Periodically homework sampling will take place to ensure that the policy is being successfully implemented. There should also be consideration for the contribution the policy makes to improving the progress of pupils at school and their attitude to learning.

The policy is reviewed annually in September and will include the views of parents.

Its effectiveness will be assessed by:

- (1) The quality of the home/school partnership in supporting children's learning
- (2) The progress of children and their attitude to learning
- (3) Children's commitment to and enjoyment of the homework tasks
- (4) Year 6 pupils' smooth transition into Secondary School and their ability to cope with the demands of the homework timetable

This policy was created in July 2014 through consultation with teaching staff, parents and Academy Council.