

# Manor Hall Academy



## HOMework POLICY

## CICELY HAUGHTON SCHOOL

Building Relationships

Celebrating Success

Promoting Change

# CICELY HAUGHTON SCHOOL

## HOMEWORK POLICY

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At Cicely Haughton School we believe that homework makes the greatest contribution to learning when:

- children and parents or carers are very clear about what they need to do
- parents and carers are treated as partners in their children's learning
- tasks are carefully planned and structured to support progression in learning, as part of schools' schemes of work.
- there is a regular programme so that everyone - teachers, children and parents or carers - knows what to expect each week
- children receive prompt, clear feedback on their work
- there is firm leadership and a team approach, to ensure consistent practice
- homework policies are regularly monitored and evaluated to check that they support children's learning in the best possible way.

### **What is homework?**

For our purposes we will define it as -

*"homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers".*

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### **What is the purpose of Homework?**

- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account
- ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupil through the use of the home/school diary and class Dojo.
- improve the quality of learning experience offered to pupils
- extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision
- provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs.

The main focus of our homework will be English specifically reading and the development of phonics/spelling and Numeracy.

All pupils are encouraged to read at home every day either online Ebooks or books sent home from school via their school bags.

Feedback can be included in the Comments Section of the Reading Record Book or directly to English teacher or class teacher through the class dojo system. Parents will be supported through Newsletters, School meetings and are welcome to telephone/visit the school by appointment to discuss issues arising.

Admission Meetings and Annual Reviews will also provide the opportunity for discussing the Role of the Parents/carers in Homework.

*“The precise amount of time spent on homework is less important than the quality of the tasks set and the way that they are planned to support learning”*

- The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the demands of Homework are manageable for pupils and parents/carers.
- The class teacher is responsible for explaining the agreed pattern of Homework to parents/carers.
- Feedback from parents/carers should be requested in order to monitor attitude, level of difficulty, and time devoted to tasks.

### **The role of the parents and carers in supporting pupils**

In general terms parents and carers should, be encouraged to:

- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework - alone or, more often for younger children, together with an adult - or help pupils attend other places where homework can be done, such as homework clubs or study support centres
- make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework.

Beyond this parents and carers of younger children, in particular, should be encouraged, as far as possible, to become actively involved in joint homework activities with children. to help them in this they may need guidance from class teachers.

### **Homework and study support facilities**

Where parents have difficulty providing the above and request the support of the school in ensuring completion of Homework Tasks, opportunities for supervised completion will be facilitated at break times, after school or during residential times.

### **Feedback for pupils, parents or carers and teachers**

Where homework is done together with adults, children will often receive immediate feedback on what they are doing. In the case of work they do on their own, it is very important that children receive appropriate feedback from their teachers as quickly as possible. This may be through class work or tests (for example tables or spellings), or through comments from their teacher (for example on written assignments). At a more general level, recognition of children's efforts, for example by mentioning them in assemblies or publicising the achievements of particular classes, is very important in maintaining pupils' motivation. Motivation stickers and homework certificates should be used.

Where parents and carers have carried out activities with children, teachers will be interested in feedback from them, both on how well the children did the activities and on whether the activities were interesting/too easy/too hard etc.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of homework are vital.

Class teachers and subject leaders will check Homework Diaries/journals for assignments, parental comments and Homework Books for quality of work on a regular basis.

Feedback will be provided on compliance with the policy and the quality of homework set.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

***The school has achieved dyslexia friendly full status and as such will give due regard to dyslexia friendly strategies and objectives.***

# HOMework POLICY

## (Appendix)

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- At Cicely Haughton School we consider that it is appropriate for our children to do homework on three nights per week, from entry into school. Monday - Maths, Tuesday - Spellings, Wednesday - Reading or Comprehension.
- Children will be expected to take greater responsibility for their own learning as they get older.
- Children will spend between 15 to 30 minutes on homework, according to age and need.
- Parents will be informed about the Homework Policy at Admissions and an evaluation will be presented at our Annual Open Evening. Parents will be expected to co-operate with and support our Homework Policy as part of the Home School Agreement.
- Parents will be offered support if needed to enable them to provide with confidence the support their child requires:

This will be in the form of written help, Parents' Evening and the option of a Home Visit/s).

Similar arrangements are available to R.S.W's who supervise the residential pupils with their homework.

- Parents will be encouraged to comment on the homework set (e.g. level of difficulty, attitude, length of time taken) through the Home/School Journal.
- The children will be invited to comment on the homework, either in writing or in the class feedback session.
- Homework will emanate both from the English and the Maths Hour but will be differentiated to meet the Individual needs of the child where necessary.
- Homework will be marked by the subject teacher either in an individual conferencing session or as a class group (as appropriate).
- Science homework will be set at the discretion of the class teacher.

Any member of staff experiencing difficulty will be expected to discuss the problem with the relevant co-ordinator.