



Harden Primary School

Homework Policy

December 2014

# Harden Primary School Homework Policy

## Rationale

We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

Whilst it is recognised that homework if properly designed and supported can have considerable benefit to children, **it is not compulsory** and will not be set as a punishment. However, as children in Year 6 are preparing for entry to secondary school, as well as for SATs tests, it is expected that children in Year 6 complete the homework that is set for them and support provided at home for them to do so. The policy has been reviewed and agreed by the staff and the Governing body and will be reviewed again in December 2015.

## The purpose of homework

Wherever possible homework for children should be a joint activity and should seek to:

- show the child that both home and school are interested in learning;
- ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout school
- demonstrate to the child that learning does not only take place in school;
- extend and reinforce learning through consolidation and revision
- raise individual achievement
- promote parental understanding and home support for children's learning
- provide experiences that are different from those experienced in school but which encourage them to observe, discuss and analyse;
- develop self-confidence by gaining the approval of parents and carers.
- encourage children to develop independent study strategies

## The nature and amount of homework:

It is not the policy of the school either to use homework as a punishment or to overburden the child or family. The school will publish a list of general activities, which pupils can engage in at home and which are appropriate for the age of the child. We will also identify specific tasks and activities, which may enrich or support particular activities planned each half term.

Our expectations for homework are as follows:

### Reception and Year 1 Classes

Reading	Picture story book /banded reading book – changed at least once a week High frequency words pack (in line with phonic progression) – practice words every day – assessed by teacher
Literacy/ Numeracy/Topic	1 piece per week of either Literacy, numeracy or topic or a longer project over a few weeks.

## **Year 2**

Reading	10 minutes practice 3 times a week
Literacy/Topic	One activity per week or a longer project over several weeks
Maths	Times tables practice and mathematics once a week

## **Years 3 and 4**

Reading	15 minutes practice 4 times a week.
Maths	Times tables practice and mathematics once a week
Literacy/Topic	Weekly tasks or a longer project over several weeks.

## **Years 5 and 6**

Reading	20 minutes practice 4 times a week.
Maths	Times tables practice and mathematics once a week.
Topic	Cross curricular activities once a week or a longer project over several weeks.

Year 6 may have other SATs preparation.

All homework will be posted on the homework section of the school website:  
[www.harden.bradford.sch.uk](http://www.harden.bradford.sch.uk)

Parents are encouraged to check this regularly for information and messages. Each class teacher will decide which day to set homework and will notify parents on the website and in the curriculum letter.

It is important that all children have time to read for pleasure as well as reading that is set by the school, i.e. home reading book. Please note that home reading books will only be changed when an adult has signed in the reading record to say they have heard the child read and they have finished the book. It may be beneficial to read books more than once. Each class teacher will decide which days reading books will be changed.

### **Planning and coordinating work:**

It is important particularly with younger children to establish and develop reading and listening skills.

At the beginning of each half term information will be sent to parents informing them of the work to be covered and suggesting activities they could do at home to help their child to improve their background knowledge. This will be posted on each class's homework page of the school website.

The children should have sufficient time to undertake homework activities without too much intrusion to their family activities.

### **Recognising pupil's effort**

It is important that the children's efforts are supported and praised both at home and in school.

We will recognise pupil's work by:

Marking the work with a sticker, stamp or short comment,

Sharing work done at home with the class and in assemblies;  
Praising and rewarding pupils for their efforts using our reward system.

### **Monitoring The Homework Policy**

The nature and frequency of homework will be monitored on a termly basis.

### **Informing parents and carers about the homework policy**

Parents will be able to see the homework policy on the policies section of the school's website.

### **Reviewing the Policy**

The Head teacher will meet with the staff annually in the Autumn term to review and update this policy. The results of the review will be presented to the governing body as part of the Head teacher's report.

Kirsty Hutchinson  
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