



Advice for Parents

Homework & Personalised Learning Challenges

Our Aim:

- ✓ **To improve the quality and effectiveness of homework activities**
- ✓ **To extend learning by linking homework tasks to activities completed in the classroom**
- ✓ **To actively engage children and their parents in homework activities**
- ✓ **To allow children to become independent learners developing their knowledge and understanding through a range of styles, allowing for individualism.**
- ✓ **To maximise every child's learning by engaging them in activities using their own learning styles.**

Overview

Homework is set in line with the school's 'Homework Policy', a copy of which is available on the school website.

Work can include a range of different activities that support the tasks that have been carried out in the classroom.

These may include:

- ✓ Reading aloud to an adult on a regular basis
- ✓ Learning spellings
- ✓ 'Talk Homework' that involves discussing the focus for a future piece of writing
- ✓ Handwriting practise
- ✓ Reading comprehension activities
- ✓ Planning pieces of writing
- ✓ Planning presentations
- ✓ Researching topics
- ✓ Learning Times Tables
- ✓ Learning number facts and number bonds
- ✓ Practising calculation strategies learned in class

These are all important aspects of homework and will continue, but on occasions the above tasks will be replaced or accompanied by '**Personalised Learning Challenges**'.

Personalised Learning Challenges

Personalised Learning Challenges will be an inclusive form of homework which develops creative, presentational and information finding skills. The children will record their own responses to the learning challenges set by teachers in their own individual and often unique way.



Activities are intended to be open ended, allowing the children to make their own decisions on how to collect, record and present their homework.

We know that all pupils have different learning styles, some are visual learners, others work well with words and writing, many learn best from hands on activities and through making things. Learning is maximised when children engage in activities using their own individual learning style.

The challenges will ensure that children have a good view of how they can shape their own learning and performance alongside their own personal learning targets.

The children can decide how they want to present their homework to ensure that they achieve the WALT.

We hope that the personal learning challenges will be fun and driven by the children, having an impact on our drive to develop a more creative and independent learner who understands their preferred style.

There are lots of good ideas and examples of the kind of work we are trying to develop on the website www.learninglogs.co.uk



How will Personalised Learning Challenges be set?

Your child will come home with an appropriate challenge perhaps on a 3 weekly basis dependant upon the work being carried out in class.

The children will be given a very clear objective for the work ie.

- *To present research on two famous highwayman (this must include some written information.)*
 - *For example*
 - *Poster*
 - *Fact file*
 - *Labelled pictures*
- *To present a reasoned list*
 - *If you were the Prime Minister, what would be your top tens rules for the country? List them in importance with reason and evidence.*

Teachers will talk through the objectives and discuss possible ideas that the children could use in their challenge work. Clear guidelines on handing in deadlines will be given.

Remember.....

- ✓ There is no right or wrong way to complete the challenge.
- ✓ Children can choose how to present and respond to the task, be it though pictures, diagrams, writing, maths, models etc. A combination of ideas is acceptable.
- ✓ The work should be child led, parents can give support by discussing ideas and information but please do not do the work for your child.

Children can.....

- ✓ Take control of.....
- ✓ Actively engage in.....
- ✓ Take pride in.....
- ✓ Have fun with.....

.....their own learning.



Tips for helping your child

Ask your child how they are thinking of setting out the page. If they are unsure, ask them to think of examples they have seen in class or look at pages from information books.

Remember the children can display the work as they wish: painted, coloured, different pens.
They can use flaps, pockets with letters in, pictures from newspapers etc.

We ask for your support in seeing that homework is completed. We would ask that you encourage your child to work at their own pace. Most children need time to get over the school day before embarking on homework tasks, others may need your company and encouragement to help them establish a routine for themselves-this will establish good habits for future education experiences when homework expectations will increase.

Promote the challenge to your child, they will soon share your enthusiasm and interest. Use the experience as quality time to talk to your child about their school work and interests.

Please encourage your child to take pride in their work and have fun with the tasks.

Talk to your child about how they are going to collect the information that they need; this may involve taking them to the library, looking on the computer with them or finding magazines for pictures .

Some children work better by completing their work in one go, others will prefer to do a bit at a time over more days.

Why not set up a special box of equipment that children use for their challenges? It could include: pens, pencils, crayons, glitter, glue, scissors, different coloured papers and card, bits of fabric, ink stamps, stickers.
We will provide paper as requested.

If working with your child to complete the work has become tricky, try taking a different approach e.g. your child could plan it on a piece of paper and then you could look at it together.

Try not to leave it to the last day to get started.

Come in and talk to us if you have any difficulties or problems.