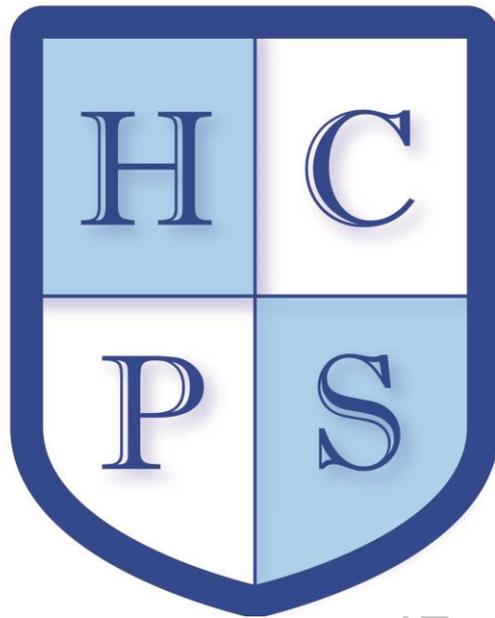


Hunslet Carr Primary School



Homework Policy

High expectations
Caring
Positive attitude
Successful

Policy reviewed: January 2018

Next review: January 2019

High Expectations, Caring,

Positive Attitudes and Successful

STRENGTHS OF OUR SCHOOL



The Children

Are well behaved, calm and polite
Are engaged, positive and resilient
Are supportive and helpful towards others
Have an input on important decisions
Have a sense of belonging

The Community

School supports the whole family not just the child
Recognises the importance of attendance
Spreads our growing reputation as a good school
Helps celebrate the children's achievements
Supports the school on improving behaviour

The Curriculum

Is a fun curriculum that is engaging
Maintains a strong focus on the basic skills
Is enriched through extra-curricular activities
Supports our most vulnerable children
Provides a rich variety of experiences & opportunities

The Staff

Develop nurturing relationships with children
Provide good quality teaching and learning
Support one another to help the children
Are consistent in how they treat children
Identify children's SEN needs early

THE CURRICULUM WE HOPE TO PROVIDE



Skills - Successful

Fluent and confident in the R / W / M
Communicate with confidence
ICT skills fit for the future
Life skills – social, money, time, dining, cooking
Safety skills – Swimming, healthy choices
Problem solving – Patience & Resilience
Managing Feelings

Attitudes - Positive Attitudes

Confident, proud and independent
To believe that 'Impossible is Nothing'
Celebrate the achievement of other
Understand & celebrate a range of cultures
Take responsibility for themselves & others
Be honest and learn from mistakes
Respectful, caring and helpful

Experiences - Caring

To experience Family Style Dining
Going away on a residential trip
Visiting a range of places of worship
Look after an animal or grow a plant
Range of trips to theatres/farms/beaches
Taking part in public performances
The opportunity to represent the school

Knowledge – High Expectations

High school ready English & maths
To know about local places of interest
To know where we are in the world
Life skills – money, time, dining, cooking
Information about possible careers
To know major historical facts
To know their own strengths

Purpose of the policy

We are committed to developing skills, knowledge, experiences and attitudes of our children through a strong partnership between home and school. We want to unlock potential whilst providing opportunities for our children to grow.

To support this, the following policy is for all people connected with the school to understand why and how the school administers homework.

Adoption

The school Governors at their meeting on 18th January 2017 adopted this policy and the scale of charges set out below. This is reviewed annually.

The aims of our homework:

By providing homework we aim to:

- Enable children to make maximum progress in their academic development;
- Encourage children to develop confidence and self-discipline to study on their own and prepare them as independent learners;
- Develop skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths, revising, consolidating and reinforcing through additional practice at home;
- Help raise the level of achievement of individual pupils; providing opportunities for parents and children to work together, and thereby fostering an effective learning partnership between Home and School.

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between Home and School. School, parents and children agree to expectations for homework in the 'Learning Contract' (see Appendix A) when homework is first issued at the start of a new school year.

We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate learning whilst taking part in a range of life experiences, with parental support. This will still enable children to have 'down time.'

A breakdown of how homework is structured is provided below. This approach is new from September 2016 after research and feedback from staff, parents and children. It has been designed to encourage a gradual progression of skills and expectations so that by the time children leave Hunslet Carr Primary School, they have established a clear routine in preparation for Secondary School.

Most homework is provided for completion over 5 days so it can be made to fit around family lifestyles and other commitments. For year groups preparing for end of year examinations, the homework will be adapted to suit the needs of the children, at the teacher's discretion. Parents/carers will be notified if there are any changes to the homework format during this period.

What homework will be given?

To enable children to unlock their potential and grow, homework will be split into 2 parts;

'The Key 3' (unlock potential) and **#30things** (opportunities to grow).



- 3 activities will be given each week linked to:
 -  Reading at home,
 -  Phonics/Key words/Spellings and
 -  Maths-based activity

All 'Key 3' activities will be planned to support age-appropriate expectations and individual needs.



- Children will also be aiming to complete the whole-school **#30things** challenge. Each term, they will be given an activities sheet, which will be stuck in their learning journals.

An example of #30things:

#30things Y1/2: Summer 2018			
Learn a poem by heart and perform to your friends	Have an iPad /TV-free night	Sing a song and perform it with actions	Send a postcard to a friend
Plant a sunflower	Go strawberry picking	Visit a garden centre	Learn how to make a paper aeroplane
Make a picture, using dots only	Design a wedding outfit for the Royal Wedding	Find the best slide in West Yorkshire	Have a picnic outside
Design a new England Football kit	Try a new sport	Record the temperature over a week	Make a family member smile

- Children will choose an activity/experience for that week to complete. Families can choose the activities that suit their child's interests and home life, enabling learning to be supported effectively at home.
- Within the school year, Years 2 and 6 may focus on revision-themed homework in place of some #30things activities.

Celebration of Home-School Learning

- When a child completes the **#30things** challenge in a school year, they will be awarded a **#30things** badge which they can add to their school uniform.
- Each year the **#30things** badge will change design to reflect a new year of experiences. (Badges will be similar style to the swimming/scout badges)



How will children record their homework?

- Reading to an adult will be signed in the child's reading record by an adult on each occasion.
- In the Learning Journal, a child will record reading activities, spelling/phonics practice, a maths activity and evidence of **#30things** challenges.
- Evidence of the challenges can take the form of: pictures, write-ups of the event in journal, adults simply dating/signing next to activity on sheet in Learning Journal etc.
- There will be a whole-school display in the hall that will build up throughout the school year; raising the profile of homework and the strong partnership of learning between Home and School.
- Tweets from the **#30things** challenges and/or **'The Key 3'** will be made by school to promote homework.

How will homework be marked from January 2018?

- Parents and children will be made aware of the expectations for marking homework during the meet-the teacher meetings in September.
- Staff will monitor the non-negotiables through progress in class (including assessments, Maths tasks during morning register) and will read through any homework presented in Learning Journals by a simple tick and an initial of the adult marking.
- It will be made clear to parents and children that teachers are not expected to mark spellings, punctuation and grammar errors in children's work, but will correct any factual errors.
- Marking of the Maths activity will be part of the learning discussions in class and/or peer/self-assessment of a weekly Maths assessment. This can also take the form of verbal feedback between teacher and child if online resources have been used.
- Reference to homework will be made at Parent-Teacher meetings and in the child's end of year report.

Frequency of Homework:

Daily: Hunslet Carr Primary School expects children to read at home daily and for their reading to be recorded in the Home School reading record. ***This reading record needs to come to school daily so that any reading in school can be recorded in this.***

Weekly: Spellings and a number based task (Example: Speedy Spider) will be given.

Termly: At the beginning of each term, a #30things grid will be given where children take charge of their learning; ensuring they complete 10 of the activities/ experiences on the grid within a term.

We aim to comply with the recommended DfE (Department for Education) time allocations for homework:

Years 1/2 = 1 hour per week (10-15 minutes each day)

Year 3/4 = 1.5 hours per week (15-20 minutes each day)

Year 5/6 = 30 minutes per day.

Inclusion:

It is important that every child receives homework that is matched to their ability and the learning they have been taking part in during lesson time. To this end, homework has been carefully planned so that children can answer the open-ended question at their own level, enabling them to make progress from their starting point.

What are our roles in our Learning Contract?

Role of the SLT (Senior Leadership Team):

- Promote this policy by raising its status and importance.
- Ensure homework is built into teachers planning.
- Provide support and guidance for children/parents (E.g. homework clubs if appropriate).
- Keep up to date with developments regarding homework.
- Monitor and evaluate this policy annually.

Role of School Staff:

- Teachers will sign the 'Learning contract'
- Teachers will always distribute homework in accordance with this policy.
- Set interesting tasks and activities linked to in school learning.
- Explain when, what and how work is to be done so that each child clearly understands.
- Homework will always be reviewed with a weekly tick and a 'deep-mark' at the end of each term, linked to #30things.
- Spelling scores will be recorded and progress may be discussed at Parents' information evenings.
- Maths activities will be marked within class activities or by an adult.
- When asked by a parent, teachers will be able to provide additional homework, if appropriate.
- Staff will be available to discuss and assist with the completion of homework when requested by a parent/carer.

Role of Parents/Carers:

- Sign the 'Learning Contract', indicating their support and understanding of how homework will take place.
- Praise the value of homework to their children.
- Provide a suitable space in their home where children can concentrate on their work.
- Establish a homework routine, such as no television while completing work.
- Provide materials, e.g. pen, pencil.
- Go through homework before a child starts and discuss it when they have finished.
- Make the experience positive.
- Find time to help their child or be at hand if a problem arises.
- Contact the school if they are not sure of some aspects of the homework or their child is experiencing difficulties.

Role of Children:

- Sign the Learning Contract.
- Complete their homework and hand it in on time.
- Ensure standards of homework reflect the same high standards in School.
- Listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them.
- Contribute to pupil interviews on homework for the School to evaluate.
- Make sure they get feedback on their homework.
- Highlight to School Council any ideas they may have about homework.
- Attempt all homework activities – **'Impossible is Nothing'**

This policy will be reviewed in the Teaching and Learning committee: January 2019



Our Learning Contract

School:

We will provide weekly Homework of:

- 'The Key 3'** will 'unlock' your potential.
 -  Reading at home,
 -  Phonics/Spellings and
 -  Maths activity.

- A yearly **#30things** challenge, will allow you to 'grow'. Throughout the school year, you need to complete at least 30 of these activities.

- The last week of each term, we will provide a
A smiley face and next steps on your #30things progress.

Signed: _____ (**Teacher**)

Child:

- My Homework is handed out on: _____
- I will hand my Learning Journal in by: _____
- I will give 100% in my Homework and hand it in on time.

Signed: _____ (**Child**)

Parent/Carer:

- I will provide some time and quiet space for my child to complete their homework.
- I will check and sign my child's Learning Journal.
- I will support my child, where needed, in completing their homework activities.

Signed: _____ (**Parent/Carer**)