



Chalkwell Hall Infant School

Homework Policy

Agreed by Governing Board: Autumn 2024

Review date: Summer 2027

INTRODUCTION

Chalkwell Hall Infant School provides a thoughtful approach to homework by highlighting its value both in reinforcing school learning and in building a partnership between parents and educators. It emphasises that homework is not merely an extension of classroom work but also a tool for involving family members in the educational process, creating enthusiasm for learning, and making use of home-based resources and one-on-one time.

The key reasons for giving homework include:

- Keeping parents informed about classwork
- Encouraging enthusiasm for learning
- Utilising home resources and adult support
- Gathering information to share with peers
- Rehearsing essential skills (maths, spelling, handwriting)
- Developing reading fluency and comprehension
- Cultivating organisation and self-discipline

By framing homework as an opportunity for both educational growth and personal development, it supports pupils in preparing for tomorrow's world while strengthening the connection between school and home.

Chalkwell Hall Infant School has a broad and flexible approach to learning, recognising that valuable lessons are gained not only through academic work but also through everyday activities and social interactions. Key points include:

- **Value of Everyday Learning:** The school appreciates the non-academic learning that happens during daily activities, such as conversations, cooking, playing games, shopping, and exploring.
- **Importance of Communication:** The ability to communicate effectively is highlighted as a crucial life skill, and the school encourages opportunities for conversation, play, and communication in various forms.
- **Support for Extracurricular Activities:** The school celebrates children's involvement in extracurricular activities like music, swimming, dancing, and sports during the weekly Celebration Assembly, emphasising the importance of well-rounded development.
- **Adaptable Homework:** Homework is tailored to meet the needs of each child, class, and year group, with the understanding that these needs evolve. Homework will be provided only when children are developmentally ready.

This approach encourages a well-balanced lifestyle for pupils, fostering both academic and personal growth. It reflects the school's commitment to ensuring homework is meaningful, personalised, and complementary to the holistic development of each child.

Examples of homework might look like this:

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2
• Coloured level reading books • Phonics and red words (sight words)	• Coloured level reading books • Reading comprehension books	• Coloured level reading books • Reading comprehension books

• Big Talk activities • Record 'Wow' moments on Tapestry	(VIPERS) • Online reading portal • Phonics • Maths • Online Maths activity	(VIPERS) • Online reading portal • GPS • Maths • Online Maths activity
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We use varied and accessible channels to ensure that parents are consistently informed and equipped to support their children's learning in a collaborative and proactive manner.

- **Communication:** Homework expectations are shared with parents through various platforms, including School Ping, Tapestry, Facebook, the school newsletter, and the school website, ensuring that parents are well-informed in a timely manner.
- **Support for Parents:** These communication methods not only inform parents but also provide support in enhancing the homework experience for pupils at home.
- **Regular Updates:** The upcoming week's learning objectives in Phonics and Maths are shared in the school newsletter, helping parents prepare for and support their child's learning.
- **Interactive Learning:** Facebook is used to showcase classroom activities, and parents are provided with questions, links, and games to extend learning at home.
- **Online Resources:** The school website offers a range of helpful tools, such as links to educational websites, games, and resources like sound mats and letter formation sheets, to further assist in learning.

Much of our homework is practical based that can be accessed easily at home. It is not marked in the traditional sense and does not need to be handed in.

- **Parent Feedback:** The school encourages parents to provide feedback through the Reading and Communication Book and Tapestry, allowing teachers to gain insight into how pupils are progressing at home.
- **Ongoing Assessments:** Teachers regularly assess pupils' understanding of key areas such as Maths, red words, and spellings during class.
- **Individual Communication:** Teachers maintain open communication with parents regarding the individual needs and progress of each child, ensuring that support is tailored to their learning journey.

This approach fosters a more collaborative and practical method of feedback, emphasising the importance of both parent involvement and ongoing classroom assessments to monitor pupil progress.

We recognise the value of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in supporting home learning. Key points include:

- **ICT as a Learning Tool:** ICT is acknowledged as an effective resource for enhancing home learning, offering interactive and engaging ways to support pupils' development.
- **Access to Online Learning Platforms:** Pupils have access to platforms such as Active Learn and Oxford Owl for Reading, and Purple Mash for interactive Maths and English games, as well as activities that cover a broad range of subjects in the wider curriculum.
- **Inclusive Access:** The school ensures that all children can access ICT resources, providing opportunities during lessons, activity times, and through a lunchtime ICT club. This ensures that pupils who may not have access to these resources at home are not disadvantaged.

By integrating ICT into both home and school learning, the school supports a modern, well-rounded educational experience, while ensuring equal access for all students.

In conclusion:

No Pressure: Homework is intended to help and support pupils, not to cause worry or anxiety. There are no negative consequences for not completing homework, and pupils are not required to give up free time at school to finish uncompleted tasks.

Open Communication: Parents are encouraged to communicate with their child's class teacher if they have any concerns, ensuring that any issues can be addressed collaboratively.

Balanced Development: The school promotes a healthy balance between homework and other out-of-school activities, supporting each child's overall development and well-being. This approach prioritises the mental and emotional well-being of students, making homework a positive and stress-free experience while maintaining open channels for parent-teacher communication.