

# Sherwood Primary School

## Homework Policy



September 2021

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## Homework Policy



## Mission Statement

We aim to create a happy, caring environment in which children develop self-confidence and independence and are encouraged to be considerate and show respect for others, while reaching their true potential.

## Sherwood Curriculum Rationale

We aim to provide a creative, vocabulary rich curriculum that inspires and challenges our children, in preparation for life in a culturally diverse and ever-changing world. High expectations, inclusive approaches and excellent teaching will form the basis of all our work. Our children will have the opportunity to read widely, explore, ask questions and become knowledgeable, independent learners. Our Curriculum will prepare our children for life-long learning.

Inspire • Explore • Achieve

## Sherwood Values

Teaching and Learning at Sherwood Primary School is underpinned by six core values.

The 6 Sherwood Core-Values are:

- Honesty
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Adventurous
- Aspiration
- Independence

Alongside our core values, we also promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs across the curriculum.

## Aims

At Sherwood, our pupils' homework forms a key part of our partnership between home and school with the aim of working together to help all children achieve their full potential.

We believe that homework is an essential part of pupils' learning. At Sherwood, homework is set and children are encouraged to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life.

Homework will be carefully planned to reinforce skills and understanding, enhance and extend learning further.

Through the provision of a variety of activities and approaches to homework we aim to:

- raise standards in all curriculum areas;
- reinforce basic skills in Maths and English;
- create a sound partnership between parents and teachers with regard to children's learning;
- improve pupils' attitudes to learning and independent learning skill;
- prepare our children for periods of remote learning.

## Definition

Homework is defined as work set by the teacher to be undertaken at home, either by the child alone or with the support of an older sibling, parent or carer. Homework at Sherwood will involve a variety of activities:

- Reading: independent, shared or paired reading, with possible activities to reinforce comprehension and understanding of texts as children progress through school.
- Spellings and vocabulary extension: learning sounds and spellings; activities to apply spelling rules and patterns to extended tasks.
- Research into an aspect of the curriculum as preparation for, extension to, consolidation of or follow up to work carried out in class.
- Learning number facts and practice of calculation, including problem solving (multiplication tables, number bonds, etc..).
- Written tasks in English and Maths.
- Handwriting
- Other tasks to extend work done in class, including topic-based work.

## The role of our Teachers

At Sherwood, our teachers will:

- Provide a clear overview of weekly homework tasks through our School website.
- Provide pupils with details of how to access the range of online resources used to support pupils learning: Espresso, Mathletics, Seesaw.
- Assign a variety of tasks that draw on a range of pupils' IT skills for completion.
- Provide our children and staff with guidance on how to work safely online.
- Ensure that homework is carefully explained, this may include video links to modelled content on our School website.
- Provide differentiated tasks through Seesaw as appropriate to support pupils' next steps in learning.
- Plan varied and be interesting tasks.
- Provide an opportunity to reinforce or practise work covered in class
- Ensure homework is marked in line with the school's marking policy, this may include audio verbal feedback and next steps through Seesaw.
- Give reasonable time for its completion (including time to complete tasks if homework is not returned)
- Provide additional guidance for parents as part of termly curriculum letters and through modelled video content on our website;
- Provide details of how/when homework should be completed, including web links, etc.
- Inform parents if homework is consistently unsatisfactory or not completed. The merits of homework will be discussed and its completion encouraged.
- Provide Guidance and support to parents on strategies and methods used where possible. This may be through an example.

## Inclusion

Our teachers will ensure that homework tasks are differentiated to support pupils with SEND, EAL and other specific learning needs.

## The role of our Parents

At Sherwood, we encourage our parents and carers to discuss homework activities with their child linking to prior learning in class. Parents and carers are encouraged to liaise with our class teachers if their child has difficulty with his/her homework.

## The Administration of Homework

At Sherwood, homework is set on a weekly basis. All homework tasks are published on our website class pages each week. Homework is not set over holiday periods, but children may be given suggestions of how to enhance their learning through a particular theme.

All pupils are provided with exercise books in which to complete paper based tasks and a login to Seesaw for completion and submission of online activities.

## Content

### EYFS

Pupils in EYFS are encouraged to read for 5-10 minutes each day. In addition to reading, a task linked to number, phonics and the wider curriculum will also be set on a weekly basis. This additional core learning task is planned each week and it is expected that this will take 10-20 minutes.

### Year 1 and Year 2

Pupils in Year 1 and Year 2 are encouraged to read for 10-15 minutes each day. Two additional core learning tasks are planned each week and it is expected that each task will take 15-20 minutes. Our teachers will also provide an overview of vocabulary and spellings that can be shared and discussed at home.

### Year 3 and Year 4

Pupils in Year 3 and Year 4 are encouraged to read for 15-20 minutes each day. Two additional core learning tasks are planned each week and it is expected that each task will take 25-30 minutes. Our teachers will also provide an overview of vocabulary and spellings that can be shared and discussed at home.

### Year 5 and Year 6

Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 are encouraged to read for 15-20 minutes each day. Two additional core learning tasks are planned each week and it is expected that each task will take 30-45 minutes. Our teachers will also provide an overview of vocabulary and spellings that can be shared, discussed and practised at home.

## Monitoring

The Headteacher will regularly review the Policy and Guidelines on behalf of the Governing Body, alongside the whole staff team, and will monitor the quality of homework provision through planning and work scrutiny.

## Policy links:

- Online Safety Policy
- Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement
- Equality Policy
- Remote Learning Policy
- SEND Policy

Approval date:

Review date:

Signed (Headteacher):

Signed (On behalf of the Governing Body):