

Homework Policy

Background:

At Ranelagh we believe that homework is vital to support pupil progress.

Homework tasks are set for pupils at Ranelagh with the purpose of supporting ongoing progress and achievement for all pupils.

Aims:

We view the purpose of homework as:

- developing an effective and supportive partnership between the school, parents and community in realising the aims of the school;
- consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy;
- exploring resources for learning in the home environment;
- extending and complementing school work and supporting independent study skills, and
- Developing pupils' skills of organisation and self-discipline and preparing pupils for the demands of their future studies.
- Homework will be given out once a week and collected the following week.

Early Years Foundation Stage Homework (Nursery & Reception):

Pupils will be expected to take home a reading book to read as well as one piece of English and one piece of maths, all linked to the class curriculum.

Reading books will be a book of choice and a levelled phonics book.

Key Stage 1 and 2 Homework

Homework will be set for five activities a week. These will include reading, writing, spelling, maths and topic work. The children will be required to complete all the homework and return it to school as directed by the class teacher.

Across the school

The school have set maximum guidelines of how much time should be spent on homework tasks per day. These are as follows:

Nursery - up to 10 mins
Reception - up to 15 mins
Years 1 & 2 – up to 20 mins
Year 3 – 20 mins
Year 4 – 25 mins
Year 5 – 30 mins
Year 6 – 35 mins

Requirements of the Class Teacher:

- plan regular homework to support the pupils' learning needs;
- plan homework that challenges but does not defeat the pupil;
- differentiate tasks according to the needs of the pupils;
- ensure appropriate resources are available if required;
- provide pupils with the opportunity to complete a variety of good quality tasks;
- mark homework regularly in accordance with the school's Marking Policy;
- provide feedback where required, both orally and written for pupils and parents which should be discussed where necessary;
- encourage children to complete their homework;
- monitor the completion and handing in of homework tasks;

- Reward children that complete their homework with a raffle ticket to be put forward for a small prize draw at the end of the half term.
- Liaise with parents where necessary.

Children with SEND and/or English as an Additional Language (EAL)

Homework should be set for pupils with SEND or EAL to provide the right of pupils to share fully in the work of the class, whilst considering individual learning needs.

Homework tasks need to be clearly differentiated according to needs. The purpose of homework remains the same for SEND pupils as with any pupil, in that it should support the ongoing learning needs of the child. It is important that resources are provided where appropriate to support children such as the use of pictures and symbols.

Guidance on appropriate homework for SEND pupils can be sought from the Inclusion Leader.

Recording of Homework

It is essential that all pupils return homework completed and on time, as it is a reinforcement of the learning in school. All children will be encouraged to complete the homework through the reward system and staff will take into account the needs of the pupils.

All written homework should be recorded in the pupil's homework book unless work is required for use in a lesson on a separate sheet/record. These books must be kept in good condition and treated with respect. It is recommended that parents purchase a school bag in which children can carry their homework.

Monitoring and Evaluation

To judge the value and effectiveness of the school's homework policy, the class teachers and leaders will:

- regularly monitor all homework books;
- judge the quality and relevance of set tasks;
- judge the quality of presentation;
- examine consistency and parity between year groups and as a phase;
- examine consistency and quality of marking in accordance with the school Marking Policy;
- feedback findings to phase members, as well as
- Inform Leadership and Management Team (LMT) of the need for future developments.

To judge the effectiveness of the school's Homework Policy, the Head Teacher and Senior Teachers will monitor and evaluate:

- the homework policy every three years, or more frequently if required
- support to teachers in the implementation of this policy, and
- Home school support through the use of parent workshops where possible.

Resourcing:

In the main, the tasks set for homework will not require pupils to use resources that they cannot access from school or home, e.g. pens, paper, pencils and homework books.

On occasions pupils will be expected to complete homework tasks using a resource other than their homework book, which will be provided.