



HANNAH MORE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy Title: Homework Policy

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Date Ratified by Governors:

Effective From:

Date for Renewal:

Signed by the Headteacher:

Policy Structure:

1. *Rationale and Aims*
2. *What does homework look like at Hannah More?*

This policy is based on our school values and has been developed after consultation with parents, children, governors and school staff.

1. Homework rationale and aims

The aim of homework is to extend learning beyond the classroom and to provide opportunities for parents to share in their children's learning. Homework is also one useful way of communicating between school and home.

Children benefit hugely from the involvement and support of parents and this help is especially important in children's early years. As children get older, they may need less support and will become more independent learners: homework is one way in which children can develop this skill.

Although it is recognised that effective homework improves academic progress, the provision of work outside school hours has to be manageable. We also recognise that children have interests and hobbies and that family life is important.

The structure for homework at Hannah More is consistent across the school. Parents should be clear about our expectations. Parents should know that they are welcome to help their children as they feel necessary, and that we expect them to discuss the work their child is doing. They should understand that children will benefit from a peaceful working environment. Parents should know that we expect them to support us by ensuring homework is completed and returned on time.

At Hannah More we acknowledge that some parents do not have the confidence, skills or language to support children's learning effectively. We are committed to supporting parents through providing a range of courses and workshops. We will also ensure that homework tasks are always very clearly explained.

2. What does homework look like at Hannah More?

We set homework every week on a **Thursday** to be returned on a **Monday**. This helps families to establish and follow a routine. The following is a guideline of the recommended time for homework in different year groups. If there are several tasks, teachers should make it clear how long children should spend on each part of their homework.

Year group	Subject	Time ?
Reception	Phonics, talking homework, nmaths.	20 minutes, plus reading every day
Year 1 and 2	Literacy and maths.	30 minutes, plus reading every day
Years 3 and 4	Maths, literacy, spellings, topic work	1 hour, plus reading every day
Years 5 and 6	Literacy (including spelling and grammar), numeracy, spellings, topic work/research.	3 x 30-40 minute pieces, plus reading every day

Homework is completed or recorded **in a homework book**. These are standard across the school. If the homework is research or online, the child (or parent) should record what they have done, in their homework book. Parents will be asked to pay for any lost homework books.

Teachers reward good effort and draw attention to poor work. Homework is acknowledged weekly, either by teacher comments or by a stamp. Stickers can be collected on the front of homework books. Rewards such as house points are also given for good homework. Homework should be celebrated and displayed when appropriate.

Homework is monitored. Teachers send a list with names of children whose homework has not been handed in to the school office, by Monday lunchtime each week. These parents are then sent a reminder text from the office. A standard text is also sent out periodically, to remind families to return homework. Further texts may be sent to parents if homework is still not returned. Homework is tracked and linked to our academic mentoring system.

All homework tasks are added to individual class pages on the website, each week.

Homework activities should be varied. Teachers should strive to set activities that the majority of parents will be able to understand and support, that do not require specific equipment and that make use of pupils' home lives and backgrounds. Homework should aim to accommodate children working at different levels and activities should be very clearly explained. The length of time children should spend on homework should be reiterated regularly.

Additional, optional homework activities should be available at Key stage 2. This is in the form of links from the website and also in the form of books available to purchase at the school office. There will also be files of suitable worksheets available. Homework clubs are offered with school support. Parents are expected to attend with children at Key Stage 1, but Key Stage 2 children may come on their own. These clubs provide an opportunity for parents/children to clarify their homework task, for children to work on similar tasks, and to make a start on their homework.

Whole-school holiday tasks and activities are also set, such as art projects.

A leaflet for parents, summarising our homework policy and the school's expectations, will be distributed with new homework books.