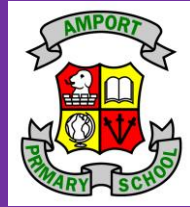


# Amport C.E. (Aided) Primary School



**TRUTH TRUST FORGIVENESS LOVE**

## Homework Policy

<b>This policy was adopted</b>	<b>September 2011 and is reviewed annually</b>
<b>This policy was last reviewed</b>	<b>January 2023</b>
<b>To be reviewed</b>	<b>January 2024</b>

## **Rationale**

At Amport CE Primary School, we believe that homework enables each child to:

- Actively involve parents and other carers in their learning,
- Consolidate, reinforce and introduce new skills, knowledge and understanding
- Extend school learning
- Take advantage of learning resources which may be available at home

This policy has been agreed by all stakeholders following a full consultation with the staff, children, parents and governors of Amport CE Primary School in 2011 and has since been reviewed annually.

Homework is any work or activities set by the teacher which children do outside of lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

We value the support that parents give their child and encourage dialogue between the school, the child and the parents around homework and its impact. We expect parents to support the school policy by ensuring that homework is:

- Completed regardless of any preferences either the child or the parent may have
- Completed in a timely manner
- Completed to a good standard
- Embedded into their child's out of school routines

We believe that those children who embrace the homework policy do well in school and make good progress. Because of this, the home school agreement states that parents will ensure that their child will complete their homework tasks.

## **Aims**

We aim to:

- Ensure a consistent approach and consistent expectations throughout the school
- Ensure the needs of each individual child are taken into account
- Ensure that parents and carers understand what is expected from their child and how they can support their child
- Extend and support each child's learning experience
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences

## The type and amount of homework

### Phonics (YR/1)

Phonics flashcards are sent weekly to Year R children and Year 1 children. Parents should *sound out* the phoneme when reading and writing. This video explains how to sound out synthetic phonics: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc> The school has a preferred handwriting style which is available on the website <https://amportprimaryandover.secure-primariesite.net/class-pages/>

### Reading (All children)

Reading is a crucial pathway to facilitate learning and enjoyment and, as such, we strongly believe that **all** children should read **as much as possible and at least five times a week**.

### Year R and Year 1

Children should read their Little Wandle text at least 3 times a week to an adult. Additionally they should share their colour banded books and library books. This maybe a book they could read with some support or a book you could read to them.

Children in Year 2 should spend at least 10 minutes each day reading and discussing their reading.

Children in Key Stage 2 should spend at least 20 minutes each day reading and discussing their reading.

Reading materials should be those provided by the school. These will be either banded books (books with a colour code) or School Library Service (SLS) books. Children are expected to read a variety of authors and genres, and fiction and non-fiction. Their choice of book may be advised by the class teacher.

Where children are still learning key words and tricky words, a pack will be included with your child's reading book. Please can your child practise reading these *by sight* ie. The word should not need to be decoded.

Constructive and informative feedback from parents is welcomed. We encourage parents to use the Multi-Dimensional Fluency Scale to inform this feedback. The class teacher can explain this further upon request. A copy of the Multi-Dimensional Fluency Scale can be found glued into your child's Reading Record.

We ask that your child's Reading Record is kept safely; the comments within inform class teacher assessment of your child's progress towards Age Related Expectations (ARE) and are seen as evidence to support that judgement. Please record all reading your children's reading experiences in the Reading Record. All children are asked to back their Reading Record in sticky back plastic and keep all books and keywords in their book bags at all times .

### **Doodle (All children)**

All children are expected to complete online homework through the Doodle platform. This includes Doodle Spelling, Doodle Maths and Doodle Times tables. Doodle English will also be used when the class teacher thinks it would be appropriate.

Even though this is a new resource, our own school data shows that children who access Doodle regularly are making better progress than those children who do not.

Children who develop mathematical fluency will be able to access more demanding problem solving and reasoning tasks with confidence; likewise, children who can spell and use grammar correctly are able to write with more confidence. In both examples, cognitive load is reduced as the fluency is embedded.

### **Times Tables (KS1 and KS2)**

By the end of Year 4, children are expected to know all of their times tables to 12 x 12. To support this, we expect children to practise their times tables by rote learning. Children should chant their tables and have rapid recall of both the multiplication and the related division facts. Doodle Times tables will support the children's learning

### **Recorder and instrument Practice (KS2)**

The school curriculum includes the teaching of recorders as part of our music curriculum which is delivered by one of our class teachers. We also offer instrumental tuition delivered by peripatetic music teachers from Hampshire Music Service (HMS) which is optional and paid for by parents. Such teaching requires the children to practise both the recorder and the optional additional musical instrument and this forms part of the homework schedule.

### **Weekly English and Maths activities**

Children will be given a Maths or English activity. The exercises should be completed weekly following direction from the class teacher. Parents will be advised of the exercises on Google Classroom or the children will be given a hard copy on a Friday. The teachers will advise whether the homework will need to be marked by the parent or the teacher.

## **Communication**

Homework is planned by the class teacher who will ensure that the work set is both balanced and manageable. Homework is not optional. Parents are encouraged to liaise with the class teacher if homework becomes challenging at home as the school can offer support, suggestions and advice to aid its completion.

The homework schedule is set as a table found at the end of this policy. Periodically during the year, the routine may change. Parents will be given adequate notice. Additionally, Year R may occasionally be directed to other pieces of homework that support a particular topic or theme they will be/ are learning. Full details will always be available on Google Classroom.

## **How parents and carers can help**

- By providing a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which your child can do their homework
- By setting a suitable routine for your child
- Making it clear that you value homework and support the school in explaining how homework can help your child's learning
- By working with your child to support and encourage them and by praising their efforts rather than focusing on whether the work is 'correct'
- Encouraging your child to complete their homework to the best of their ability
- By encouraging your child to return their homework to school on time for feedback or monitoring when requested
- To be proactive in liaising with the class teacher in the event of difficulties as we can help; please request an appointment to meet with the class teacher via the class teacher email account
- By supporting the school when a firmer approach may be required to ensure homework is undertaken by your child; homework is not optional

## **Monitoring the Homework policy**

The Headteacher, in liaison with staff, will review this policy annually. Reading records and other homework records will be monitored by the class teacher on a regular basis. If your child does not complete homework there is a process that will be followed. This will begin with the child being spoken to by the classteacher and will be followed up with communication with parents.

**Homework schedule**

	To read and write high frequency words	Reading Every day to include key words where appropriate	Additional Curriculum Tasks	Doodle Spelling	Doodle Maths	Doodle Times Tables	Instrument Practice  (more if practising for grades)
<b>Year R</b>	Phonics 5 minutes per day 5 x per week	10 mins	Duration will vary with task; some weeks this will take more time and other weeks less time	5 minutes of either per day with about 10 minutes of each being undertaken over the week		X	X
<b>Year 1</b>		10 mins		5 minutes per day x 5 days per week	5 minutes per day x 5 days per week	At least 5 x 5 minutes per week	
<b>Year 2</b>	X	10 mins		5 minutes per day x 5 days per week	5 minutes per day x 5 days per week		
<b>Year 3</b>		20 mins		At least 10 minutes per day x 5 days per week	At least 10 minutes per day x 5 days per week		
<b>Year 4</b>		20 mins				3 x 10 minutes per week where applicable	
<b>Year 5</b>		20 mins					
<b>Year 6</b>		20 mins					