



**Well-being and achievement are at the heart of Grouville School so that we can all develop as Life Long Learners and take responsibility for ourselves and the community.**



*As a Rights Respecting School our philosophy is underpinned by the values and principles of the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).*

**Article 3: Everyone who works with children should do what is best for each child.**

**Article 28: You have the right to learn and go to school.**

**Article 29: You have the right to be the best you can be.**

## Homework Policy

### THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

We believe that homework should:

- Be meaningful and help children grow in confidence as learners.
- Be an opportunity to further stimulate enthusiasm for learning.
- Reinforce our message that learning does not just take place at school.
- Be a means of encouraging and developing organisational skills, independent study, self-motivation and discipline.
- Be a means of consolidating, rehearsing and revising skills and help children to further develop their understanding so that they can make progress in their learning.
- Provide a vehicle for increasing children's available 'learning time'.
- Be a way of encouraging parental involvement and 'partnership' in their child's learning.

Whilst we support all of the above principles, Grouville is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parent's imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning. We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice.

## **THE ROLE OF TEACHERS**

### **Teachers will:**

- Help children to understand and value the importance of homework by modelling this.
- Ensure any homework is purposeful and relevant.
- Set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- Provide an explanation of homework tasks when necessary.
- Ensure that homework is set consistently across each year group.
- Set homework that takes into account children's ability and access to resources.
- Provide additional resources.
- Mark homework and give feedback (verbal or written).

## **ROLE OF THE CHILDREN**

### **Children should:**

- Understand and value the importance of homework.
- Complete quality work to the best of their ability that reflects our school values and expectations, for example: independence, high level thinking, presentation.
- Be responsible for their homework.
- Seek to further extend their learning, pursuing areas of interest – going above and beyond expectations - should they wish to do so.

### **In Key Stage 2 children should:**

- Ensure they have collected the full homework information when the homework is set and take responsibility for obtaining their homework if they have been absent.
- Work with their families to plan and organise a routine in which homework can be completed within the given time-scales.
- Understand that homework is their own responsibility – not the responsibility of their parents.

- Agree to seek further help and support as soon as possible from their class teacher should there be any problems or misunderstanding relating to set tasks.

## **ROLE OF FAMILIES/CARERS IN SUPPORTING CHILDREN**

### **Families/Carers should:-**

- Make it clear to children that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which the child can do their homework, and pens, pencils etc., to complete the task.
- Encourage children and praise them when they are working hard on their homework.
- Allow children to take the lead.
- When appropriate, become actively involved in the homework activities of the child.
- Share and celebrate their child's learning.
- Gain an understanding of what their child is learning.
- If homework cannot be completed, in exceptional circumstances, inform the class teacher.
- If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battle ground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently, please talk to your child's teacher.
- If you choose to take holidays during term time, something we actively discourage, please do not request work from the teacher. We suggest that you organise a holiday diary.

## **STRUCTURE OF HOMEWORK**

The structure and content of homework will vary from Foundation through to Key Stage 2 in order to best meet the needs of the children. We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school.

### **Foundation**

#### **Nursery**

- One take home task every term.

#### **Reception**

- Read, Write Inc related activities as appropriate – sound sheets, ditty books to re-read

- Poetry book

### **Key Stage One**

- Take home task set each half term (year 1)/termly (year 2)
- Daily reading
- RWI revision and practice when appropriate
- Spellings – regularly, to meet expectations of the new spelling curriculum
- Maths that supports learning in class

## **Key Stage Two**

Most homework tasks are set on a Monday and usually handed in on a Friday. Longer time will be given for extended tasks.

### **Reading**

All children are expected to read every night. In Years 3 and 4, children keep a Reading Diary which should be signed by parents nightly.

### **Spellings & Maths Skills**

Children are expected to practice key maths skills such as times tables and division facts. Spelling is taught daily in the classroom, there may be occasions when children will be given spellings to practice.

### **Core tasks**

In addition, each year group will be set homework tasks. These will be based upon Maths, English, Science or Topic and will be relevant to the work that is happening in the classroom. Some of this work may be revision and other tasks may be set in order to stimulate enthusiasm for learning. On occasions extended projects running for a few weeks will be set.

In Year 6, children are expected to use a homework diary to help with personal organisation and preparation for Secondary School.

***February 2015***

***Agreed with Parent Forum March 2015***