



STEP Academy Trust

Homework Policy

Date of Policy: July 2015

Review: July 2018

Rationale

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes they need for successful lifelong learning. It supports the development of independent learning skills, including the habits of enquiry and investigation.

To be read in conjunction with the following policies: Teaching and Learning, Assessment, Marking and Presentation, EYFS, English, Maths, Science, Computing, Arts, PE, RE, MfL, SRE and relationships.

Aims

1. To develop an effective partnership between each Academy, parents and carers in pursuit of the Academy's aims, alongside STEP's aims.
2. To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths.
3. To extend school learning and improve the quality of learning experiences offered to pupils.
4. To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
5. To encourage older pupils to develop the confidence and self discipline needed for studying independently.

Guidelines

Foundation/Key Stage 1-Homework for the infant children starts very gradually with an emphasis on reading. This should be seen as a pleasurable activity rather than work. Regular reading practice is most important if children are to become good readers. It is recommended that children have a short reading session each night – 10 minutes is sufficient to start with. The children in years 1 and 2 will also be expected to learn some spellings, find things out and bring things in.

Key Stage 2- As the children get older, the amount and variety of homework is increased. The children are still expected to read regularly, even when they become good readers. The children learn spellings, tables and have English, Maths, Science or Topic homework that is recorded in their books/folders. Homework could be a piece of work to consolidate a topic taught during the week or a piece of reading or research which allows children to find out something new ready to share as part of the following weeks lessons.

Year Group	Amount Of Homework
Nursery/Reception (50 minutes a week)	10 minutes reading every night Sight word practice (reading) Optional homework grids with activities based around the children's learning focus.
Year 1 (1 hour a week)	10 minutes reading every night Spellings tested on a weekly basis Times tables to learn Online Maths homework Homework grid with activities based around the children's IPC unit.
Year 2 (1.5 hour a week)	10 minutes reading every night Spellings tested on a weekly basis Times tables to learn Online Maths homework 20 minutes written homework a week (English, Maths, Science or Topic)
Year 3 (1.5 hours a week)	10 minutes reading every night Spellings tested on a weekly basis Times tables to learn Online Maths homework 20 minutes written homework a week (English, Maths, Science or Topic)
Year 4 (1.5 hours a week)	10 minutes reading every night Spellings tested on a weekly basis Times tables to learn Online Maths homework 20 minutes written homework a week (English, Maths, Science or Topic)
Year 5 (2 hours a week)	15 minutes reading every night/reading journal Spellings tested on a weekly basis Times tables to learn Online Maths homework 30 minutes written homework a week (English, Maths, Science or Topic)
Year 6 (3 hours a week)	15 minutes reading every night Spellings tested on a weekly basis Times tables to learn Online Maths homework 40 minutes written homework a week (English, Maths, Science or Topic) Nearer the time of SATs, children may be set more homework, relating to past SATs papers/work set from Boosters.

Rewards

Key Stage 1

- Children in KS1 are rewarded with praise, stickers, raffle tickets or house points on completing their homework.
- Homework grids/timetables to be given out within the first week of every half term.
- Recognition will be given to the children who read every night over a half term.
- Recognition is given for homework that is handed in regularly and to a high standard.

Key Stage 2

- Children in KS2 are rewarded with praise, stickers, raffle tickets or house points on completing their homework.

- Clear instructions for the children's homework are sent home so that the parents are aware of what is expected and when it needs to be handed in, this could be in the curriculum booklet, for example.
- The children are given at least two days to complete their homework.
- Recognition is given for homework that is handed in regularly and to a high standard.
- Recognition will be given to the children who read every night over a half term.

Sanctions

- The children's homework is closely monitored by the class teacher.
- Teachers will ensure homework is handed in on time and is of a high standard.
- Parents may be asked to sign the children's homework on completion, particularly if the homework is not handed in regularly.
- Parents are expected to write a letter to the class teacher if there is a legitimate reason why the homework was not completed in the given time.

Key Stage 1

Teachers will monitor the children's Reading Records ensuring they are reading regularly at home. The parents of children not reading at home or learning their spellings will be contacted by the class teacher.

Key Stage 2

When homework is not handed in the following sanctions will take place.

- If homework is not completed 3 times during a half term the class teacher will make a phone call home to the parents or meet with them on the playground/make an appointment to discuss this further.