



Homework Policy

Person(s) Responsible: Headteacher

Formally adopted by the Governing Body: November 2023

Review date: November 2024

This policy also applies to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

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We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Biggin Hill Primary School we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Why give homework?

- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It can encourage reading for pleasure and foster a love of reading
- It can be an opportunity to reinforce basic skills that are taught and practised at school such as times tables, doubling facts, addition sums and other key facts;
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.
- It can inform parents/carers about work going on in class

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, Biggin Hill Primary School is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents/carers' 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. We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives such as maths badges and certificates.

Incomplete homework does not result in a formal consequence, however homework engagement is monitored by class teachers and may be discussed with parents and carers.

How homework is set at BHPS

Maths Homework

- Maths homework will be based around practising for the maths challenges, maths challenges will be on a Monday. If the maths challenges are causing concern for a child, we would ask that this is discussed with the child's class teacher. Children are encouraged to practise their times tables daily at home using Times Table Rockstars. Daily practice will develop speed, fluency and accuracy and will support pupils in tackling more challenging problems.

Year Group	Maths
Reception	Number formation activities and red maths challenge as and when children are ready.
Year 1 - Year 6	Maths Challenge Practice - children to practise for their maths challenges - challenges set on a Monday.

Award	Content
Red	Counting and number recognition number bonds within 5 (addition & subtraction)
Yellow	Number bonds of 10 (addition & subtraction)
Green	Addition of 2 1-digit numbers; subtraction within 20
Bronze	2x, 5x, 10x tables Multiplication only
Silver	2x, 3x, 4x 5x 6x, 8x tables Multiplication only
Gold	All tables to 12 x 12 Multiplication only
Master	All tables to 12 x 12 Multiplication and division
Champion	Some multiplication & division 0.7x, square roots, square numbers, 300x etc.

Reading Homework

Year	Reading at Home
Reception. Year 1 and Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils are expected to read a school reading book to an adult at least 3 times a week. Books can be changed as needed by putting it in the box outside the classroom at the start of the day. Parent/carer should initial and date each time the child reads. If parents/carers would like to, they can comment on their child's reading. This might include words that they decoded using phonics or unfamiliar words that they found tricky to read. Regular acknowledgement of the reading completed at home from staff in the form of comments, stickers, stamps or initials. Pupils will also be rewarded for their effort through the behaviour track in their classroom.
Years 3-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils are expected to read to an adult at least 3 times a week. It can be either a school reading book or if they are reading beyond the reading scheme then either a book from home or their class library. Parent/carer should initial and date each time the child reads. If a child is able to assess their own reading, then they may write these comments themselves; however, it must be signed by their parent/carer. Weekly acknowledgement of the reading completed at home from staff in the form of comments, stickers, stamps or initials. Pupils must bring their book in every Monday for this to happen. Pupils will be rewarded for their effort through the behaviour track in their classroom.

Below is a table showing the expected reading book bands for each year group:

Reception	Pink, Red and Yellow
Year 1	Blue, Green and Orange

Year 2	Turquoise, Purple, Gold, Lime and White
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Alongside their phonics based school book, pupils should still continue to have books read to them and to enjoy reading picture and early chapter books for pleasure.

Once children are beyond white level, they can either choose a book to read from their class library or read a book from home. It is important to read a variety of books. Staff are always happy to advise and suggest books for pupils to read. Both websites below have excellent suggestions organised by school year and subject.

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk> and <https://www.thereaderteacher.com>.

Free Book Swap for KS2 pupils

Every Tuesday on the KS2 playground. Pupils can bring in a book from home that they no longer read and swap it for another book. They can do this as many times as they like during the school year.

In order to prepare for the SATs tests, Year 6 will be given weekly revision tasks for reading, GPS and arithmetic. These tasks should take no longer than 5 minutes each to complete. Tasks will be posted on Google Classroom each week and completed tasks will be marked by class teachers and sent home with pupils to review.

A Year 6 Revision drive has been created to provide pupils with additional revision materials to complete at home. This drive is updated regularly by class teachers with new materials. While the revision tasks set are optional, we hope pupils in Year 6 will be motivated by the use of team points, praise and additional rewards in school.

It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks, though we do encourage children and their parents/carers to continue to read for pleasure. The exception to this may be where the parent/carer and teacher agree extra work would be beneficial.