

Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School

Homework Guidelines and Expectations

Although recent research outcomes exploring the impact of homework on children's learning vary widely, at Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School we believe that there is a value in children spending regular, supported periods of time on different learning activities as part of a homework programme, particularly where that homework supports or reinforces learning in school.

We believe such a programme also supports in preparing primary age children for secondary education, where homework plays an increasingly important role, by providing an opportunity for children to develop as independent learners who are able to organise and take responsibility for their own learning.

Whilst there are now no national guidelines regarding the amount of time your child should spend on homework, our teachers set homework on the following basis.

Purpose of Homework

- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, especially in literacy and numeracy.
- To undertake research in preparation for future lessons or topics.
- To further develop speaking and listening skills through discussion with parents.
- To extend school learning, e.g. through additional reading.
- To encourage and support pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently, particularly as they near secondary education.

Year R	Reading Word Boxes (from Term 1) Spellings (from Term 6) Counting/number facts (from Term 6)	Daily 5 minutes x 3 per week Weekly (daily practice) 5 minutes x 3per week
Year 1 and 2	Reading Spellings/phonics Talk homework Number facts/times tables Maths task	Daily Weekly (daily practice) Teacher directed Daily 20 minutes per week.
Years 3 and 4	Reading/task Spellings Talk/Topic homework Number facts (times tables) Maths	Daily Weekly (daily practice) Weekly Daily (x 5 minutes) 20 minutes per week.
Years 5 and 6	Reading Spellings Number Facts (times tables) Cross-curricular/Topic Project Maths Literacy	Daily Weekly (daily practice) Weekly 1 per term (6 in total) A focus on maths/literacy in alternate weeks – approx. 1 hour in total across the week.

The days on which homework may be given and collected will vary from class to class. Teachers will inform parents of the expectations for the children in their class and will aim to inform parents of any significant variations in homework patterns once regular routines have been established.

All children are expected to attempt and show commitment to homework tasks.

As the children get older, they are encouraged to take responsibility for remembering which days to take homework home and return it to school.

Occasionally children will have specific learning needs and may benefit from additional/alternative homework tasks to ensure that the learning focus is that which is of most benefit to them at that time, for instance, some post- Reception children may take 'word boxes' home to reinforce their phonic knowledge and decoding skills whilst still learning to read. When this is the case, the class teacher will discuss this with parents so they are aware of both the reasons for this, and the ways in which they can support.