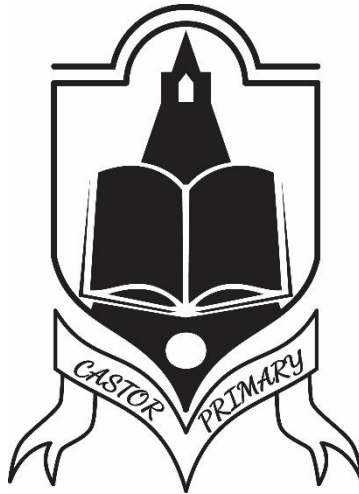


# Castor C.E. Primary School

**Policy Name: Homework**

**Committee Responsible for Policy: Learning and Progress**

**Policy written by: Staff, M Ratchford**



**Date presented to staff: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017**

**Date approved by Governors: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Review Date: May 2020**

**Where: website, relevant to staff induction, school network – Staff > Policies > Curriculum, ,**

**Equality Act Statement:**

1. We welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in relation to age (as appropriate), disability, ethnicity, gender (including issues of transgender, and of maternity and pregnancy), religion and belief, and sexual identity.
2. We welcome our duty under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to promote community cohesion.
3. We recognise that these duties reflect international human rights standards as expressed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, and the Human Rights Act 1998.

Please refer to Castor School's Race Equality Statement

## **Early Years**

There is a flexible approach to homework in the Reception Class.

Children have reading books sent home for the week: a free choice book selected from levelled boxes in the classroom and a library book. Parents are provided with a Phonics Booklet with guidelines and a Reading Record book in which to write a comment if they wish to.

Homework tasks are set at various times in a term and are generally related to topics. The children have a 'Wow Book' in which to record this work.

Children's rates of development are such that it will not necessarily be appropriate for all children to have activities to do at home, but the class teacher and the child's parents will always liaise and communicate closely about all homework activities in Foundation Stage.

Children are also encouraged to bring in objects from time to time in order to stimulate talk in the classroom.

## **Key Stage 1**

Children should spend at least 10 minutes a night reading. This can be recorded in a Reading Record Book. Children receive two levelled reading books and choose a library book each week.

The children will have one piece of homework set every week which should take up to half an hour. The work will be either Maths, English or Topic based

The activities will be set on Thursdays and will be collected by the class teacher on Tuesday morning.

All children will have a Homework Book in which to show their work. Children will be expected to read their school reading book in addition to set homework

Children will also be expected to learn spellings on a weekly basis.

## **Key Stage 2**

Children should spend at least 15 minutes a night reading.

The children will have two pieces of homework set every week that should take at least half an hour each (but no more than an hour). The work will be Numeracy every week and either English or Topic work.

The activities will be set on Thursdays and will be collected by the class teacher on Tuesday morning. All children will have Homework Books (maths and a general book) in which to show their work.

Children will also be expected to learn spellings on a weekly basis.

### **Extension Activities**

The termly Curriculum Leaflet provides guidance to each class on topics being studied and a range of ideas for home research and activities related to curriculum subjects.

Children in Key Stage 2 have logins for MyMaths online learning .

Parents are always able to communicate with teachers through Homework Books, by email or arranging a meeting after school.

### **Marking of Homework**

Homework is marked in line with the school's marking policy, and before the book is returned to the child

## Homework

### **How can you help your child with their homework?**

By showing an interest in your child's homework you are communicating the fact that school work is important and needs to be taken seriously. Encourage your child to complete homework to the best of their ability and have high expectations for their work.

### **The Benefits**

Parents who take an interest in their child's homework have a better knowledge of their education. Additionally, children who are able to complete assignments successfully are likely to develop a good working attitude.

### **Why is Homework Important?**

Homework set prior to a lesson can aid understanding later in class. Homework also provides opportunities for reinforcement of work learned during school time. Having the responsibility of needing to meet deadlines promotes self-discipline, an attribute which will impact on school work and beyond.

### **How much Homework?**

On a Thursday your child will be set a piece of homework which will need to be completed in their homework book and handed in the following Tuesday. There will usually be homework each week relating to the areas we are studying in class, as well as daily reading (see reading record). If your child wishes to do any extra homework we are always pleased to see this so glue it in the homework book so we can have a look.

### Practical Ways to help your child with their homework

Provide a quiet, well lit study area and avoid distractions such as the television and loud music. Try to have a regular homework routine. Obviously household routines differ but try to do it when your child is not too tired or rushes it after an out of school club. It is important to get a good balance of a range of activities for your child, which should include their homework.

Give your child opportunities do homework activities independently as well as supported by adults around them. Show an interest in your child's homework and make time to talk about what they are doing.

### **Praise Effort and Achievement**

It is vital to praise your child for his or her efforts and achievements. Positive comments are more effective than negative ones. A child can become disaffected if continually reminded of shortcomings. Building self-esteem is very important if your child is to succeed with school work.

### **Provide Equipment**

Ensure your child has basic equipment such as pens, pencils and ruler. Try not to use rubbers. If your child makes a mistake cross it out. Other useful items could include scissors, glue and sticky tape. If a piece of homework requires additional equipment which you do not have feel free to come in and borrow it from the classroom.

### Problems with Homework

From time to time you may have concerns about homework. Please come in and see us if any difficulties arise.

Most importantly, make the homework fun and rewarding for all involved.

### Homework reminders

Your work should be presented as carefully as possible. Think about how we ask you to present work in your books at school.

Please always draw in pencil and write in either pencil or pen. Like school, please don't use biro.

If you are colouring pictures, please use pencil crayons or felt tips that don't leak through the pages.

Use guidelines to help you keep your writing straight on any plain pages without lines. If the lines are difficult to see, draw some lines lightly with a ruler.

If you have any problems finding out information at home, please ask about using the Internet or books at school but don't wait until just before it is due to be handed in.

If you need to stick something in your book, please stick it in so that it passes the 'curly corner test'. (You might need to explain to your grown-ups what it is!)

Your grown-ups can obviously help you with your homework, but make sure you have a go for yourself first.