

Homework Policy Statement

Carolside Primary School



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 28: Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education they are capable of.

Article 29: Children's education should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest. It should encourage children to respect others' human rights and their own and other cultures.

Effective homework is associated with greater parental involvement and support. The broader evidence base suggests that short focused tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught, and which are built upon in school, are likely to be most effective.

[Review of Learning at Home \(Education Scotland, August 2018\)](#)

Rationale:

Curriculum Rationale

In Carolside our curriculum is designed to offer a wide range of learning experiences that provide breadth, depth, challenge and opportunities for children to lead their learning.

Carolside Primary recognises the vital role parents play in their child's education. Parents, carers and other family members can and do make a real difference to children's education. When parents and schools work together, children achieve more. Sharing an interest in homework and talking to your child about it really helps them to learn. With support and encouragement, children find it easier to get into the homework habit. In line with our curriculum rationale, homework should be varied in form and provide opportunities for children to lead their learning. The following policy was designed after consultation with all stakeholders during the session 2019/20.

Reasons for Homework

It is the right of children and young people to be given homework appropriate to their needs and the right of children and young people and parents to be given information and feedback on homework, when appropriate.

*Updated March 2022
Review June 2023*

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Homework should:

- practise and consolidate learning undertaken in class
- help to prepare children for future learning
- encourage children to take more responsibility for their own learning
- help children and young people to develop good habits of study, organisation and management
- help children and young people to plan and organise their time
- access resources out with school
- help develop home school partnership
- help children and young people to develop the skills necessary to become successful, independent learners

Types of Homework:

Homework tasks will vary according to stage, from class to class and will depend on the curricular focus of the task. Core curriculum areas (Literacy and Numeracy) will provide the main focus for homework tasks. Homework tasks will be supplied on a weekly basis, during term time.

In addition to the regular Literacy and Numeracy homework there may be other tasks/projects issued linking to a particular curricular area or context for learning e.g. Science, Social Subject, Expressive Arts, Health and Wellbeing. These will be designed to encourage the pupils' research skills, whilst allowing them to demonstrate their creativity in its completion.

Role of the Teacher:

- Plan and provide tasks that should be stimulating and should also give parents some information about the work being covered in class.
- Homework should be given on a weekly rather than nightly basis, allowing families to best plan when to complete the given tasks.
- Homework should be communicated to pupils via Google Classroom, detailing the assigned activities. Teachers should clearly explain the purpose of the homework to pupils.
- Homework should be printed out and issued to any children or young people who prefer this method.
- If a homework task requires an associated paper activity, this should be provided by the school. Families should not be required to print any of the homework tasks themselves at home.
- Plan and provide tasks that are purposeful and matched to the needs of the child. In some cases an individual homework programme might be appropriate.
- Assign tasks related to learning taught and skills covered in class.
- Set regular homework capable of being completed in the given timescale.

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- Read and mark the homework and give appropriate feedback on the quality of the completed tasks. This may be done as a group or as a class.
- Support children and young people in completing homework during the school week providing access to digital devices as required. Address any issues or concerns by contacting parents if required.

Role of the Pupil:

- Ensure homework is accessed via Google Classroom or a paper copy taken home where appropriate.
- Ensure that they are clear about what is expected of them.
- Be responsible for looking after their homework resources.
- Ask for help and advice if necessary.
- Complete the tasks to the best of their ability and submit them in on time. Homework should be returned to class by the Monday of any given week.
- To develop a routine for doing their homework.

Role of the Parent/Carer:

- Help to emphasise the importance of homework.
- Agree a routine for the completion of homework and check that it is being followed.
- Speak to your child about the homework set and give support and assistance when required.
- Encourage your child to complete tasks to the best of their ability.
- Notify the teacher where there are concerns about the amount of homework or if your child is having difficulty completing it.

Role of the family:

Family outings, activities and experiences are a valuable part of life and home-learning:

- They can provide a depth and application of knowledge and skills.
- Develop further awareness of the world around them.
- Allow pupils to learn in a nurturing and relaxed environment.
- Broaden pupils' experiences.

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How can the school support?

We are aware that at times children and young people will find the completion of set homework tasks challenging, whether through complexity or time factors. Should this be the case, parents should contact the school with any concerns.

Homework information will be detailed in Google Classrooms. Where possible, the school will organise and run Homework Clubs to help those pupils requiring extra support in completing allotted tasks.

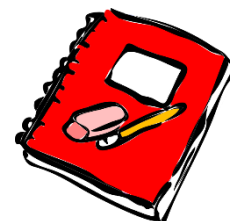
The school will be able to provide a digital device for use at home to support any child or young person with the completion of homework.

Types of feedback:

- Jotter work / written work submitted and marked by the teacher.
- Direct written feedback, from the teacher, on a piece of work submitted via Google Classroom or handed in.
- General written feedback posted by the teacher on Google Classroom.
- Class discussion around homework submissions.
- Pupil discussion with peers about their homework submissions.
- Children and young people presenting their homework to their classmates/peers/teacher.
- Peer/Self-assessment strategies against an agreed criteria.
- Teacher giving oral feedback on a submitted piece of homework.
- Homework displayed in the classroom / school as part of on-going learning / interdisciplinary learning displays.



Appendix 1 - Homework Guide for Parents and Carers



Carolside Primary recognises the vital role parents play in their child's education. Parents, carers and other family members can and do make a real difference to children's education. When parents and schools work together, children achieve more. Sharing an interest in homework and talking to your child about it really helps them to learn. With support and encouragement, children find it easier to get into the homework habit. In line with our curriculum rationale, homework should be varied in form and provide opportunities for children to lead their learning.

Reasons for Homework

It is the right of children and young people to be given homework appropriate to their needs and the right of children and young people and parents to be given information and feedback on homework, when appropriate.

Homework should:

- practise and consolidate learning undertaken in class
- help to prepare children for future learning
- encourage children to take more responsibility for their own learning
- help children and young people to develop good habits of study, organisation and management
- help children and young people to plan and organise their time
- access resources out with school
- help develop home school partnership
- help children and young people to develop the skills necessary to become successful, independent learners

Types of Homework

- Homework tasks will vary according to stage, from class to class and will depend on the curricular focus of the task. Core curriculum areas (Literacy and Numeracy) will provide the main focus for homework tasks. Homework tasks will be supplied on a weekly basis, during term time.
- In addition to the regular Literacy and Numeracy homework there may be other tasks/projects issued linking to a particular curricular area or context for learning e.g. Science, Social Subject, Expressive Arts, Health and Wellbeing. These will be designed to encourage the pupils' research skills, whilst allowing them to demonstrate their creativity in its completion.
- Homework will be issued weekly in P1-P7. Homework can be completed at any time throughout the week of issue to best suit the needs of your family and then submitted.
- Instructions about homework will be given to pupils by the class teacher and will be posted via Google Classroom. (See separate guidelines on using Google Classroom).

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- Google Classroom is the platform we use to deliver homework tasks although it is important to note that we take a flexible approach to the completion and submission of these tasks. Although issued via Google Classroom not all tasks will be screen—based.

Technical difficulties

- If at any point you experience technical difficulties with Google Classroom or downloading attached homework documents please contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible. We are always more than happy to help and support so that alternative arrangement can be made such as emailing homework activities to you or providing you with a paper copy.

How to evidence homework

As previously mentioned we take a very flexible approach to the way in which homework tasks are submitted to allow families to use a method that best suits their needs. Although homework will be communicated via Google Classroom there is no requirement for children to submit their completed tasks via this platform, there are various methods that can be used and these are detailed below:

- A homework jotter will be issued by the class teacher and work can be done in the jotter and returned to school on completion.
- Assignments can be accessed and completed on Google Classroom and completed on the attached Google Doc. Once completed this should be submitted via Google Classroom (See separate guidelines on using Google Classroom).
- Children can also take a photograph of completed homework tasks and then upload this to their Google Classroom (See separate guidelines on adding a picture of my work using Google Classroom)
- Alternatively homework tasks and or photographs / video clips of completed tasks can be emailed directly to class teachers

Feedback on homework tasks

Class teachers will provide feedback to children about their homework in a variety of ways depending on the nature of the task. Teachers should be clear in the method of feedback that will be issued for each piece of work. Feedback methods include:

- Jotter work / written work submitted will be marked by the teacher and returned.
- Direct written feedback, from the teacher, on a piece of work submitted via Google Classroom or handed in. (See separate guidelines on using turning on notifications on Google Classroom).

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- General written feedback posted by the teacher on Google Classroom.
- Class discussion around homework submissions.
- Pupil discussion with peers about their homework submissions.
- Children and young people presenting their homework to their classmates/peers/teacher.
- Peer/Self-assessment strategies against an agreed criteria.
- Teacher giving oral feedback on a submitted piece of homework.
- Homework displayed in the classroom / school as part of on-going learning / interdisciplinary learning displays.
- Teachers should be clear in the method of feedback that will be issued for each piece of work.

How can the school support?

- We always aim to ensure our children and families feel supported in relation to homework. Please be reassured that we are happy to listen to any difficulties or concerns you may have in relation to homework and please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school / class teacher.
- We are aware that, at times, pupils will find the completion of set homework tasks challenging, whether through complexity or time factors. Should this be the case, parents should contact the school with any concerns.
- Where possible, the school will organise and run Homework Clubs to help those pupils requiring extra support in completing allotted tasks.
- Devices can be made available to families who require the use of one for the purpose of completing homework. Families should contact the school should they wish to borrow a device.
- Paper copies can also be made available and any activities / tasks that require a printed sheet should be provided by the school. Again, families should contact the school to request printed copies of all homework tasks.

Role of parents / families

Family outings, activities and experiences are a valuable part of life and home-learning. They can provide a depth and application of knowledge and skills and

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develop further awareness of the world around them. They also allow pupils to learn in a nurturing and relaxed environment and broaden pupils' experiences. To develop positive approaches to homework it is helpful to:

- Emphasise the importance of homework.
- Agree a routine for the completion of homework and check that it is being followed.
- Speak to your child about the homework set and give support and assistance when required.
- Encourage your child to complete tasks to the best of their ability.