



## **GATESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY**

August 2018  
Revised Nov. 2019

### **Aims of Homework**

- to give additional practice in language and maths
- to consolidate work being undertaken in class
- to enable parents to see examples of the kind of work being tackled in class
- to encourage work out with school time, e.g. research for theme work
- to develop study skills

### **Time Allocation**

- homework will be set in 'blocks of time'. Parents will be informed of dates.
- in response to parental feedback, homework will be given out on a Friday and should be returned by the following Thursday.
- No longer than half an hour should be spent on homework unless pupils are being asked to finish off class work which should have been done during the school day.

### **Types of Homework**

Reading homework will be on-going throughout the session, parents are asked to support children by reading with them and to them, to encourage enjoyment, develop fluency and word recognition. Prompts should be provided on occasion to support this (especially for younger children). In P5/6/7, reading tasks are usually set in blocks where children are asked to read texts and provide some response to what they have read using the Strathclyde Higher Order Reading Skills (SHORS) approach.

- P1/2     - Sounds, reading, maths and writing practice  
P3/4/5   - Reading, spelling, language work and maths  
P6/7     - Spelling, language work and maths

Homework from these areas will be given at the discretion of the class teacher who will tailor it to the needs of the individual pupil. Children may also be asked to use online programmes as part of their homework e.g. Sumdog, Bug Club, Educationcity. If your child does not have access to the internet at home then please let the class teacher know.

Children may complete and hand in the tasks at any time during the week but by Thursday at the latest (or the date set by the class).

On occasion the children may be set tasks/challenges to complete over a period of time. They may have to create things or research projects related to class topics. Children might also be asked to do some imaginative exercises such as book reviews, commenting on television programmes, preparing for debates in school. They might also be asked to do some extension work related to themes or some other piece of research. Any parental support required should be proportionate to age/activity e.g. internet access, library visits, materials etc.

As a means of encouraging children to realise the importance of exercise some physical activities will be included in the homework programme. There is a huge emphasis within education on children having a healthy lifestyle. At Gateside we also value the development of talents within and out with school (Article 29 Children have the right to develop their talents fully). Please note achievements of your child in their Pupil Planner where they will be considered for a WHOOSH award. (We Highlight Out Of School Heroes)

### **Resources**

Teachers may use a variety of resources sourced from the internet, school resource library and class in order to support, reinforce and/or extend understanding.

### **Parental Assistance**

Parents can help by overseeing the homework and encouraging a high standard of presentation. Parents should be encouraged to see that homework is completed correctly but should be discouraged from actually doing the work for the pupil. If they find their child is having difficulties or not understanding the work they should contact the class teacher or use the homework diary to communicate with the class teacher. **The homework should be signed by a parent in the the Pupil Planner.**

If a child fails to complete homework over a period of time the parents will be informed and asked to check up on it. A comment on homework will be given on the school report sheet sent out in June.

If parents wish extra homework, the class teacher will be consulted. However, parents will be advised that when children have done a day's work in school they should learn to relax and perhaps be encouraged to take up a hobby rather than spend too much time on more school work (Article 31 Children have the right to relax and play)

Please note that the teacher will not provide additional class work if you choose to take your child out of school during term time.