



Parent Council Homework Survey Outcomes

Last session Viewlands Primary School Parent Council and a member of the school's senior management team set up a focus group of interested parents that wished to look at how homework was currently being delivered.

In order to get a starting point the group sought the views of the parent forum. They asked what they liked / disliked about current homework and also what they felt would be a possible way forward.

The group had an **86%** return rate for the questionnaires. This was seen as very positive.

The questionnaires were collated.

The questionnaire responses highlighted the diversity of opinions. They also highlight that one approach to homework would not necessarily fit all families and their circumstances.

The questionnaire responses also highlighted that family routines impacted on how much time children could spend on homework and also the quality they could produce.

Many responses highlighted the amount of time they felt would be appropriate for different year groups e.g. 15 mins per night P1 & P2; 20mins per night P3 & P4; 30 minute per night for P5 – P7.

Many responses highlighted that they wished more homework others highlighted they wished for less.

Some of the common comments were:

"...appreciate having the weekend to complete homework tasks, especially with how busy after school can be"

"...we would like more homework"

"...we would like less or no homework as my children are very busy afterschool"

The main outcomes from the survey were:

- Homework should be based on work already taught in class
- Homework should reflect skills and aptitudes that pupils have
- Homework should be based on skills for life, learning and work
- Homework should be an opportunity to apply skills and knowledge
- Homework should incorporate the core skills – Phonics; number bonds; reading; spelling;
- Homework should be no more than 30 minutes per night
- Reading should feature weekly

In conclusion:

- Class teachers will communicate regularly with parents about homework expectations within their class
- There will be more emphasis on celebrating wider achievements and opportunities to showcase these through homework **e.g.** Instrumental practice; sporting activities; clubs; art and crafts
- Homework will be regular
- Family circumstances will be taken into consideration when planning for homework
- Parents to communicate if there is an issue with homework as soon as possible so that measures can be put in place to support

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your responses, engaging with the questionnaire and working in partnership with us.

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