

Ralston Primary School **Home Learning Programme – A Parent’s Guide**

How much time should be spent completing homework tasks?

Please note this is only a rough guide, as children do not all work at the same pace. Homework should also be manageable as many children also have other worthwhile activities in which they are involved after school.

Homework activities must be appropriate to the needs and abilities of the children. Homework is usually issued 4 days a week and some tasks are designed to allow the choice of weekdays or weekends to complete. There may be occasions when the homework programme of the class may be disrupted due to a variety of reasons, such as a change to the school/class timetable. In the approach to major holiday periods, such as Christmas and Summer, the programme will stop one week at Christmas and three weeks before the end of term in the Summer in recognition of other commitments the children will have.

Homework Jotters:

Each child will be issued with a homework jotter appropriate to their stage. Class teachers will explain the system of recording homework activities to the children and an explanation of this will be included at the front of the jotter. In session 2020-2021 P3-P7 will be using Microsoft Teams to complete homework tasks.

What kind of tasks will be set?

Activities:

Teachers will generally set homework from two or three areas of the curriculum listed below but this will vary at times depending on the stages of the children. The homework activities should help to consolidate learning that has already been taught in class. These may include;

- Literacy and English tasks e.g. Reading, Phonics, Spelling, Writing, Prepared Talks.
- Numeracy and Maths Tasks e.g. Mental Maths, Number Processes and Problem Solving.
- Broad General Education Tasks (can cover all other areas of the curriculum).
- Current Affairs.
- Learning Logs.

These tasks will include research projects to be completed over a longer period of time. Teachers will only issue essential core learning tasks when these activities are issued. At certain times in the year i.e. term 2 and term 3 homework grids will be issued to allow personalisation and choice of activity.

Research Projects:

Personal Project activities develop research and creativity skills as children investigate and present their findings on a topic.

- At least one research project should be issued each school year from P3-P7.
- Class teachers will issue information to parents outlining how the task should be carried out and the timescale for completion.

