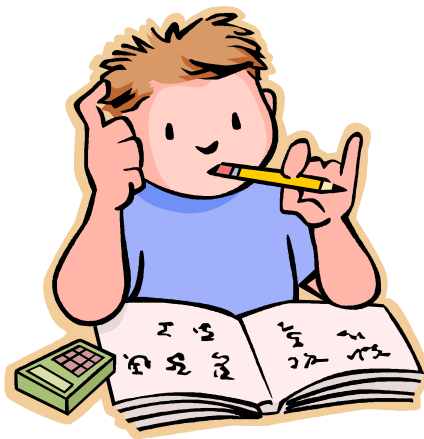


# Bell's Brae Primary School

## Homework Policy

March 2010



# **BELL'S BRAE PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY**

## **Rationale**

*“Research shows that pupils who regularly discuss school work with their parents perform better than those who don’t. Where parents are actively involved in their children’s learning it has a positive effect on their children’s attainment and achievement.”* Learning and Teaching Scotland website on supporting parents.

## **Purposes of homework**

The school recognises several purposes of homework. Amongst these are:-

- Allowing practice and consolidation of classwork
- Providing opportunities for individual work
- Training for pupils in planning and organising time
- Developing good habits and self-discipline
- Encouraging ownership and responsibility for learning
- Providing information to parents
- Providing opportunities for parental co-operation and support

## **Main features of homework tasks**

We set a variety of homework activities. The content of the task set may vary from stage to stage and at different times throughout a session but should always be:-

- Clearly understood by the pupil
- At an appropriate level of ability for the child
- Able to be completed without specialised resources
- Reflect a variety of activities
- Reviewed by the teacher with feedback given

Parents/carers are encouraged to contact the school if they have any queries about homework but are reminded that it should not be an onerous task

All pupils will have a homework jotter. This can be used by parents/carers, pupils and teachers as a means of communication. Please tell us if there is a problem.

Homework tasks may be issued on a Monday for completion by Friday, with the exception of reading which should be done on a more frequent basis.

## **In Lower Primaries(P1-2) typical tasks may include :-**

- Discussion using reading book
- Practising reading
- Reinforcing sounds

- Finding out something or bringing in items for a class activity
- Maths activities
- Spelling – Jolly Phonics

**In Middle Primaries (P3–5) typical tasks may include :-**

- Practising reading aloud
- Personal reading
- Spelling
- Maths – tables and maths sheets
- Personal research

**In Upper Primaries (P6-7) typical tasks may include :-**

- Preparation of reading
- Personal reading
- Spelling – English/French/German
- Maths – tables and maths sheets
- Personal research

## **READING**

At the early stages pupils will be expected to practise pages at home which have already been prepared in school. They should also practise words and sounds as indicated by the teacher.

Older pupils will be expected to prepare their new piece of reading at home. They should use the glossary or a dictionary to find out the meanings of any words they do not know. It is useful if pupils continue to read aloud to an adult on a regular basis. The adult can check that the child has understood the passage and help with the pronunciation of any difficult words.

Most pupils from P3 – 7 will not have any set reading homework while they are working on the SRA Reading Lab. Throughout the year personal reading should be encouraged.

## **SPELLING**

At the early stages spelling homework will involve learning the sounds of the letters and practising blending these sounds.

## **MATHS**

From P3 there will be an emphasis on learning times tables. This underpins many areas of maths. Maths homework will provide additional practice in particular areas which have already been taught at school.

## **UNFINISHED WORK**

Occasionally a child will be asked to take unfinished work home to complete. This should not happen on a regular basis and the work will be well within the child's capabilities.

## **HOW PARENTS/CARERS CAN SUPPORT OUR HOMEWORK POLICY**

- By ensuring homework is done while your child is alert.
- By providing a quiet atmosphere with as few distractions as possible.
- By checking that the quality and presentation is of an acceptable standard and signing (or initialling) the work.
- By ensuring that your child puts their reading book and homework jotter in their schoolbag on completion of their homework
- By reading to your child
- By encouraging your child to read for enjoyment by visiting the public library
- By helping your child to plan and organise their time.

**Above all by showing interest and praising good efforts**

**A leaflet explaining our homework policy is available for parents/carers**

## **USEFUL WEBSITES**

[www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk](http://www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk)

[www.ltscotland.org.uk/wholeschoolissues/supportingparents](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/wholeschoolissues/supportingparents)

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