



Stirling Council

**Fintry Primary School**

**HOMEWORK POLICY**



Date agreed: November 2018

Bodies consulted: Staff Parents

Planned review date: April 2019

Planned review date: April 2020

# Homework Policy

## Rationale

*“Homework provides rich opportunities for children and young people to demonstrate, extend and explore learning through a variety of exciting and enjoyable activities. Homework is one piece of the teaching- learning picture and in best practice is connected to what happens in the classroom. Quality homework tasks allow children to practise or process information, introduce them to material that will be discussed in the future, or provide feedback to teachers so they may check for understanding.”*

(HMIE, Learning Together in Mathematics, 2010)

## Aims and Objectives

In Fintry Primary School, we aim to help:

### Children

- To improve pupil self-confidence and motivation
- To develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning
- To provide opportunities for additional learning time
- To develop the formation of study skills
- To manage their time

### Parents

- To provide opportunities to share in their child’s learning
- To be involved with opportunities to share and encourage their child’s progress
- To allow parents to see how their child is being educated and develop a better idea of how they can help their child.

## Teaching and Learning

Homework includes a variety of tasks that underpin the values and principles of Curriculum for Excellence that extends and consolidates work done in class. Curriculum for Excellence proposes that learning experiences encourage children to be Successful Learners, Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors. Parents and pupils should expect the following approach to be implemented by teachers at Fintry Primary:

- Weekly Homework Tasks, issued on Monday and returned on a Friday;
- Clear expectations set out to children at start of year by the teacher and maintained consistently;
- Communication sent home to explain weekly Homework Tasks;
- At *Meet the Teacher* Evening, the class teacher will explain class homework with parents.
- Class Dojo for parent/teacher communication regarding homework;
- Parents are encouraged to sign homework weekly to promote the value of this important home-school partnership; and
- Teachers may comment in the homework diary to encourage good home - school partnerships with parents.

## Homework Activities

### P 1-2 Homework (Monday - Thursday)

- Class Reading Books (No more than 3 per week x 15minutes)
- Spelling Record Books will be used to practice CVC words/phonemes. (No more than 15minutes)
- Mathematics homework will offer choice either written task, website game or practical games. (No more than 15minutes)
- Optional: First Ministers Challenge Books will be used to record Reading for Enjoyment. (No less than 15minutes)

### P 3 Homework (Monday - Thursday)

- Spelling Record Books will be used to practice phonemes. (20minutes)
- Mathematics homework will offer choice either written task, Education City website or practical games. (No more than 20 minutes)
- First Ministers Challenge Books will be used to record Reading for Enjoyment. (No less than 20 minutes)
- Occasionally, an optional homework activity (20 Minutes) will be sent home from another area of the curriculum:
  - Research topics/investigations
  - Preparation for a presentation e.g. school show or poetry competition
  - Practical activity e.g. model making or cooking

### P 4 -5 Homework (Monday - Thursday)

- Spelling Record Books will be used to practice spelling and build vocabulary. (No more than 20minutes)
- Mathematics homework will offer choice either written task, Education City website or practical games. (No more than 20 minutes)
- First Ministers Challenge Books will be used to record Reading for Enjoyment. (No less than 20 minutes)
- Occasionally, an optional homework activity (20 Minutes) will be sent home from another area of the curriculum:
  - Research topics/investigations
  - Preparation for a presentation
  - Researching current affairs
  - Practical activity e.g. model making or cooking

### P 6-7 Homework (Monday - Thursday)

- A reading Homework Diary will be completed by the children to encourage independence in preparation for High School. Primary 6 and 7 should be:
  - planning their homework with the teacher;
  - managing their time at home;
  - recording their achievements through self-assessment; and
  - review their progress; and
  - set targets for improving
- Practice spelling patterns, build vocabulary, dictionary and thesaurus work. (No more than 20minutes)
- Mathematics homework will offer choice either written task, Education City website or practical games. (No more than 20 minutes)
- First Ministers Challenge Books will be used to record Reading for Enjoyment. (No less than 30minutes)

- Weekly, an optional homework activity will be sent home from another area of the curriculum:

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- Research topics/investigations
- Preparation for a presentation
- Researching current affairs
- Practical activity e.g. model making or cooking

## **Equity**

Homework will take into account each child's ability and learning needs regardless of gender, social background, disabilities, ethnicities, sexual orientation and religions. Teachers will respond appropriately to meet each child's learning needs. Teachers will seek to develop their practice which ensures improved outcomes for every child.

## **Home/School Link**

Time allocations are suggested each evening, however, we appreciate that children have a variety of clubs in the evenings and parents may wish to set aside one or two evenings for homework per week.

Parents can request an extension to Homework by contacting the teacher through Class Dojo. Parents can agree a different hand in day through discussion with the class teacher.

Opportunities for parents to be actively involved in learning will be supported through workshops, parent information sheets and Class Dojo.

## **Assessment Strategies**

Homework will be assessed regularly. A variety of strategies will be used to assess progress in homework activities, written, discussions and observations of presentations prepared at home. Progress should be discussed with the child and any difficulty discussed.