

# OAK VIEW ACADEMY

## HOMEWORK POLICY

### Introduction

Government recommendations are that for Primary pupils some homework should be completed on the evening of each school day. Children who can develop the perseverance to complete homework tasks each day are learning valuable skills, which will be advantageous to them during secondary education and through later life.

At Oak View Academy we believe that Homework can:

- effectively extend the time that children spend on learning;
- provide children with opportunities to reach higher levels of attainment and to make greater progress;
- enhance and extend children's learning;
- support the attitude that learning is not confined to the classroom;
- improve the links between home and school;
- highlight for children and parents the importance of learning at home.

Research indicates that when children, teachers and parents take homework seriously, children's work improves and standards are raised. Therefore children who do homework have a real ADVANTAGE in their learning.

### Expectations of Parents

At Oak View Academy we expect that pupils will complete all homework tasks. As parents you will be asked to support your child in some or all of the following ways.

1. Check regularly that homework tasks are being set by school and are completed by your child.
2. Work alongside your child/ren to help with spellings, handwriting, punctuation and ideas.
3. Allow time for work to be completed.
4. Hear your child read and/or read to your child.
5. Ask questions about books that have been read, topics covered at school, visits made, club activities etc.
6. Give your children opportunities to practise their maths skills.
7. Encourage children to persevere with challenging tasks.
8. Inform the school when problems arise.
9. Make sure that work is completed to the best of your child's ability.

### Implementation

#### Children will:

- Read every day/share a book and write the book title and pages read in their Homework Diary and/or their Reading Record book (in the case of younger children this will be done by parents).
- Complete each homework task in the time allowed and hand it in to the teacher on time.
- Produce the best work they possibly can.
- Know that help will be given in school if it is needed but they should ask for help in good time.

#### Teachers will:

- Set homework regularly. Teachers appreciate the time taken to complete homework tasks and will mark and / or comment on each piece of work.
- Explain any homework to children who have tried but found it difficult, so that work can be completed and handed in on time. Children can ask advice from ANY teacher.
- Give sufficient time for all tasks to be completed.
- Run a homework club to support your child.

#### School will:

- Inform parents by text if a child fails to hand in their homework, since this will be a serious DISADVANTAGE to the child. Unfinished or missing work will need to be completed during lunchtimes or after school. If a child does not complete their homework on more than three occasions, concerns will be discussed with parents.
- Make a laptop available up to 4pm for use by children who don't have access to a computer/tablet at home for use with their homework. Please note that your child must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at this time.

- Identify core homework tasks that will be a common entitlement for all pupils. Individual teachers will be expected to set a variety of tasks linked to current areas of study. Each child will be expected to complete these tasks.

**Core Homework tasks:**

1. Reading from a selection of texts. This includes Read Write Inc materials.
2. Spelling/writing/handwriting task.
3. Maths/mental arithmetic activity.

Children will be given other tasks to complete. The amount of homework will increase in quantity as children progress through the school.

	Reading	Other homework activities	Due day
Acorn Pre-school	Share a library book and talk about the story/words each week.	To learn and recite nursery rhymes and traditional stories, colours, numbers to 10 and shapes.	Friday
Juniper	Daily reading or share a story. Talk about the story/words each day. (10 mins)	Write a sentence about what you've read. Learn to read and spell high frequency words.	Friday
Cedar	Daily reading of school book/ book from home. Talk about the book to check understanding. (10 mins)	One Maths/English activity each week. Spellings to learn for test each Friday.	Friday
Maple	Daily reading of school book/ book from home. Answer questions about the book from a list. (15 mins)	One Maths/English activity each week <u>plus</u> One online activity each week. Spellings to learn for test each Friday and 2x, 5x & 10x tables.	Friday
Willow	Daily reading of school book/ book from home. Answer questions about the book from a list. (15 mins)	One Maths/English activity each week <u>plus</u> One online activity each week. Spellings to learn for test each Friday and 2x, 3x, 4x, 5x, 8x & 10x tables.	Friday
Sycamore	Daily reading of school book/ book from home. Answer questions about the book from a list. (15 mins)	One Maths and one English activity each week. Spellings to learn for test each Friday and all times tables to 12x.	Friday
Hawthorn	Daily reading of school book/ book from home. Answer questions about the book from a list. (20 mins)	One Maths and one English activity each week. Spellings to learn for test each Friday and all times tables to 12x.	Friday
Oak	Daily reading of school book/ book from home. Answer questions about the book from a list. (20 mins)	One Maths and one English activity each week. Spellings and Grammar to learn for test each Friday and all times tables to 12x.	Friday

**Developing working relationships with parents**

At Oak View Academy we believe that homework is an opportunity to extend school activities at home, to involve parents in their children's learning and to develop work habits, which will prepare children for secondary school.

**English**

**Speaking and Listening** is perhaps the most important part of English and as a skill comes before Reading and Writing. Please chat to your child and discuss what he/she has done at school during the day. Improve their spoken language by modelling the use of standard English (e.g. *What are you doing at the weekend? I am going to the xxx*) and extend their vocabulary through the use of more interesting words.

**Reading** is very important and all children benefit from sharing texts with other members of the family or a friend.

- Younger or less fluent readers should read for about ten minutes daily. Older children should read for a minimum of 20 minutes.
- Please encourage children to use the local library to supplement and extend reading.

- We are always pleased to see books which the children bring from home.
- Teachers and children appreciate parents comments in the reading log.
- Parents will be asked to contribute towards the cost of lost/damaged/unreturned books.

**Writing** tasks will be set usually over a 5-day period. Sufficient guidance will be provided by the teacher to enable you to help your child appropriately. We expect parents to support their child with their writing homework. Specific spelling tasks will be set in relation to learning how to apply given spelling rules.

#### **Writing at home (optional extras)**

- Teachers are always pleased to see work done at home such as: a holiday diary, a report of a special event, a book review, an information leaflet or an imaginative story or poem.

#### **Maths**

From Year 1 onwards, children will be given a maths activity to complete. Support with this activity from parents is appreciated. Maths homework may include the use of IXL, an online learning programme.

In addition, to support with general mathematical understanding, parents could:

- Involve children in practical activities such as cooking, shopping and playing board games, all of which develop an understanding of number and other mathematical ideas.
- Practice number bonds and multiplication tables at home.
- Teach your child to tell the time.
- Encourage your child to use measuring tools accurately.

These skills can often be learned more quickly at home on a one to one basis with parents and we actively encourage all parents to support their children in this way.

For other ways to support your child with maths please see the information on the school website: [www.oak-view-academy.co.uk](http://www.oak-view-academy.co.uk)

#### **Other subject areas**

School projects in other subject areas (e.g. Science, History, Geography, etc) can be followed up at home, thus deepening the child's understanding. There are many ways in which this can be encouraged:

- visiting places of interest;
- using libraries and museums;
- making models and games;
- drawing maps and plans;
- making records and taking photographs.

You will be notified each term of the Topic which your child will be studying through a letter and via the school website.

#### **A FINAL NOTE**

REMEMBER, homework is meant to be a worthwhile and beneficial activity for all and should not be allowed to cause undue distress to pupils, parents or teachers! Please discuss any problems with the class teacher concerned as soon as they arise.

#### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed, added to or modified by the School Board every four years or more frequently as required.

Distribution - A copy of this document will be available to:

- a) all NWA Trust and School board members
- b) all teaching staff
- c) all non-teaching staff if requested
- d) all parents on the school website