

Dame Ellen Pinsent School Homework Policy



Last Review:	May 2019	Danielle Goodayle
Current Review	June 2019	Kerry Parker
Ratified by Governors :		
To be Reviewed	June 2021	Kerry Parker

Purpose

At Dame Ellen we believe that homework should:

- give plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed
- allow children opportunities to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult and to practise key skills in a supportive environment.
- provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning
- help develop social as well as other skills where necessary
- be varied and not just written assignments
- be manageable for pupils, teachers and parents / carers

Our Aims

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help to continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for the individual pupil. to practice or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school
- To reward pupils for completing homework through a Golden Ticket

The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when setting homework there are a number of points to consider:-

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
5. Homework should be set regularly from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.

Our children's abilities and circumstances vary considerably and for this reason staff consider that homework should be individually tailored to children's needs. Homework should not be seen as a way of getting pupils to catch up with peers in mainstream.

Making Homework Manageable

Homework is given out in a variety of forms at Dame Ellen

- All children are given a home reading book. Parents are encouraged to read with their child and to give feedback to the class teacher using the home- school books
- Maths and Literacy homework is set, where appropriate to a child's needs, on alternate weeks. For some children fine and gross motor skills may be included, others may need to work on speech or signing tasks. Other children may have more formal homework set such as spellings and number facts. Depending on the level the child is working at this will either be in the form of a
- Topic Homework is set for each of the topics studied by each class over the year. This takes the form of suggestions for a variety of activities which link into the topic. Parents are encouraged to use these to extend children's learning and experiences at home.

Role of the Class Teacher

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work, at a parents' meeting or on Class Dojo
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To set homework that takes equal opportunities into account.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the taught curriculum.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To keep a record of which children are, or are not, completing and returning their homework.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To make it clear to their child that they value homework.

At Dame Ellen we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

Equal Opportunities

To regard every member of school or visitor as of equal worth and importance, irrespective of his/her creed, culture, class, race, gender (including gender reassignment), disability, sexual orientation, religion and belief, marital/civil partnership status or age.