



NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON **CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

HOMEWORK POLICY Information for parents

December 2012



'We must consider the extent to which teachers enable pupils to develop the skills to learn for themselves... including setting appropriate homework to develop their understanding.' OFSTED 2012

Outlined below is the new homework policy and structure which Newbottle and Charlton CEVA Primary School will be implementing from January 2013.

This has been written in consultation with parents, children, staff and governors.

Key changes:

- Homework is now expected to be completed and is no longer a choice.
- Homework is set over a shorter time scale—10 days to complete
- Homework will link to current work in class and could be Literacy, Maths, Science or linked to the Creative curriculum.
- Homework will be marked/acknowledged by the class teacher each time.

Purpose of Homework

Homework should not be a stressful experience between parent and child. This leads to poor learning and defeats the object. The purpose of homework is:

- To develop an effective partnership between school, parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school in helping all children to achieve their potential;
- To provide an opportunity for parents to become involved in the academic development of their child; To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy;
- To use a range of resources for learning at home;
- To provide an enjoyable and purposeful supplement to class work;
- To extend school learning;
- To encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study independently.

Homework expectations

At the front of the homework book a Homework expectations sheet will be attached which explains to the parents and children about the quality and presentation of work.

Homework tasks

Reading: minimum 5 days a week. KS1 – 10 minutes KS2 – 20 minutes. Children are expected to read each night at home either reading to an adult or reading independently. It is important to discuss what they are reading and hold discussion about the text.

(Questions sent to KS1 and KS2 parents to support at home - Nov 2012)

Spelling – children will be given a spelling pattern that they are learning each week. Although lists of words may be provided they should not be learnt as a list but the rule should be investigated and a selection of words looked at.

Times tables (KS2) – Children need to practise these each week. Children need to not only have the rapid recall of these but also the inverse operation and related facts.

Literacy/Numeracy Task and/or Science/Creative activity – On a Monday children will be given the homework tasks (as set below) and have 10 days to complete with a due in date of the following Wednesday.

Foundation/KS1	KS2 – Year 3/4	KS2 – Year 5 /6*
One piece of homework set which should take approx 30 minutes. The activity will be Maths, Literacy, Science or a Creative piece.	Two pieces of homework will be set which should take approx 1 hour. Children will receive a piece of Maths or Literacy each time as well as one other activity.	Two pieces of homework will be set which should take approx 1 hour 30 minutes. Children will receive a piece of Maths or Literacy each time as well as one other activity.

*** Towards the end of Year 6 the homework pattern may change in order to prepare more for the KS2 tests as well as further transition to secondary school.**

Typed work or work printed from the computer may be submitted (Mass printings from downloads off the Internet are NOT appropriate).

The quality of the work must be high and appropriate to the child's ability.

Homework Club

This will be run by a member of staff at school as an after school club every other week. It will allow children to use computers etc at school to research and complete work as well as have the support from a teacher. Parents of the children are more than welcome to attend so that homework can still be done together. A 'homework surgery' will also run by TA's every other Friday lunchtime to allow children to ask questions, clarify or check strategies to use.

Recognition and Monitoring of Homework

Home activities will be marked/acknowledged each time by the class teacher. There will be a marking grid at the back of the homework book where the teacher will mark and sign.

Children who are on an Individual Education Plan and children who have specific gaps in their learning may be given additional homework. This will only be done if the teacher or the SENCO feels it would benefit the child. It will be assigned in consultation with the child's parent(s)/carer(s).

Responsibilities

Teachers are responsible for:

- Establishing homework procedures;
- Ensuring that children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them;
- Preparing and following up homework tasks;
- Rewarding quality work with appropriate recognition reflecting the school merit system;
- Setting appropriate homework tasks which reinforce and consolidate class learning;
- Communicating to parents if their child's homework has not been done.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Tackling homework with a positive attitude;
- Reading at home;
- Being organised and remembering to take homework home and return it on time;
- Taking responsibility for their own learning and completing work within an agreed time;
- Taking pride in presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected.

Parents are responsible for:

- Giving children time to talk about what they have to do – just the process of explaining and discussing the task will help your child to understand;
- Encouraging your child to use a range of styles as they present their knowledge and understanding;
- Providing suitable, quiet surroundings where pupils can do their homework (i.e., not in front of the television);
- Encouraging younger family members to play quieter games if in the same room;
- Making it clear to children that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning;
- Encouraging children to persevere with a task and giving support if appropriate.
- Giving due importance to non-written tasks such as listening to children read on a regular basis;
- Keeping school informed of any changes in the child's circumstances which may affect learning.