

Bellfield Primary School



Homework Policy

Date Issued: November 2023
Review Date: November 2026

What is Homework?

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members.

Why give homework?

Homework is a hotly debated subject and there are many different views about the contribution it makes to a pupils' overall learning. We provide homework because we believe:

- It can inform parents about work that is going on in class;
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It provides the opportunity for some one-to-one adult time;
- It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables, spellings, reading and other key areas;
- It helps to foster good habits and prepares pupils for the demands of Secondary School and lifelong learning.

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, we do not want homework to dominate home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children's imagination and that weekends and evenings can sometimes be extremely busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict, it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

We do not specify amounts of time that should be spent on a task/activity, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Class teachers are always willing to provide advice and support with this.

We encourage all children to complete some core basic skills practise at home, including reading/spellings and times table rehearsal.

Our routines and expectations

It has been agreed that every class will complete the following each week.

	Daily basic skills	Optional homework
Nursery	Helping your child to learn how to use the toilet independently (daily) Helping your child to learn how to put on and take off their own coat (daily)	
Reception	Daily reading (focussing on phonic skills) – (at least 4 times per week)	
Years 1-5	Daily reading (at least 4 times per week) Spelling lists – to be practiced and rehearsed (these are tested in school)	Times table Rock Stars Times table rehearsal (saying them out loud)
Year 6	Daily reading (at least 4 times per week) Spelling lists – to be practiced and rehearsed (these are tested in school) Weekly Maths questions in the style of the SATs tests (compulsory)	

Class teachers will identify times tables relevant to the year group and inform parents of this.

Children will be tested on their spellings and times tables on a Friday. We understand that family time is precious and have therefore taken the decision not to expect homework to be completed over the weekends (unless you wish to do this).

What to do if you have concerns

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if your child struggles with it, please make contact with your child's teacher in the first instance.

Reviewer: Head of School