Inspire Education Community Trust



Homework Policy

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Statement of intent

Inspire schools are vibrant, enthusiastic, forward-thinking and safe learning environment in which pupils are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling education.

We believe that homework plays an important part in education and the benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to ensuring homework is well-balanced across the school.

This policy was developed in consultation with staff members, parents and pupils.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practise and a deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant statutory and good practice guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2019) 'Ways to reduce workload in your school(s)'

2. Roles and responsibilities

The head of schools will be responsible for:

- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing this policy annually and making appropriate updates as required.
- Discussing with staff the extent to which this policy is being implemented.
- Meeting with parents and discussing the impact of homework as appropriate.
- Providing parents with information about homework.
- Informing new parents about this policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of inclusivity and accessibility of homework.

Subject leaders will be responsible for:

- Ensuring all members of staff are aware of the school's Homework Policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy and reporting their findings back to the head of school.
- Answering any queries that teaching staff have regarding this policy and the school's practices.

Teachers will be responsible for:

- Planning and setting up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Providing an explanation of homework tasks and ensuring that all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensuring all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Setting homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities.
- Monitoring homework regularly and making sure pupils are completing it.
- Marking homework and giving feedback to pupils.
- Communicating with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Being available to parents and pupils for a discussion about homework.
- Setting homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensuring homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Rewarding quality work and praising pupils who regularly complete homework.

Parents will be responsible for:

- Supporting and encouraging their child with regards to completing homework.
- Becoming involved in their child's homework and encouraging their child to have a positive attitude towards it.

- Making sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Providing suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Informing teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operating with the school to find a solution.
- Keeping the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and ability to complete homework effectively.
- Encouraging their child to discuss homework and feedback from teachers.

Pupils will be responsible for:

- Taking responsibility for their own learning and submitting completed work in a timely manner.
- Having a positive approach towards homework.
- Putting the same effort into homework as class work.
- Making sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seeking clarification if required.
- Ensuring that they have everything they need to complete homework and returning to school all books and stationery needed to complete their homework.
- Taking pride in the presentation and content of their homework and performing to the best of their abilities.

3. The school's approach to homework

The school understands that setting, marking and providing feedback on homework is a large contributor to the workload of teachers; therefore, heads of departments and teachers will ensure that homework is only set to positively impact pupils' progress.

Prior to homework being set, teachers will ask themselves, 'Why am I setting this homework?' and 'How will this homework be useful to the pupil?' If the answers to these questions do not reflect a positive impact on pupils' learning, teachers will use their professional judgement and decide whether the homework is necessary.

If a teacher has a query, their phase leader will offer guidance and support regarding the school's procedures.

Teachers will explain the school's approach to homework to parents at the parents' evening in September.

Every term, each year group will be informed of what is expected of them with regards to homework.

Every half term the website will be updated with a half termly overview which will inform parents about the main topics and units of work being covered

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Pupils will receive homework on a weekly basis which will be returned at the time and date as specified by the class teacher.

Year group	Homework	Maximum time per day	Total per week
R	• Reading library books • Fluency reading practice book • Tricky words practice/Phonics	5 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes	I hour 40 minutes
1	• Reading library books • Fluency reading practice book • Phonics • Numeracy	5 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes	2 hour 10 minutes
2	• Reading library books • Fluency reading practice book • phonics/spelling • Numeracy	10 minutes 10 minutes 5 minutes 10minutes	2 hour 10 minutes
3	• Reading library books • Spellings • Numeracy –including times tables	15 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes	2 hour 10 minutes
4	• Reading library books • Spellings • Numeracy –including times tables	15 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes	2 hour 20 minutes
5	• Reading library books • Spellings • Numeracy –including times tables	20 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes	3 hour 20 minutes
6	• Reading library books • Spellings • Numeracy –including times tables and arithmetic	20 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes	3 hours 20 minutes

Parents will be encouraged to discuss any errors with their child. If they have any queries, they should make an appointment to see their child's teacher. Feedback from parents about their child's homework will also be welcomed by the school.

The amount of homework set for pupils will increase as they progress through their education.

The table above shows expected homework.

Teachers will occasionally set extra homework for the whole class if they deem it beneficial.

4. Absences

If a pupil is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods – pupils should be well enough to undertake any work supplied.

There may be exceptions to the above and the classroom teacher will decide whether homework should be set on a case-by-case basis.

If a pupil is absent for a long period of time, the teacher and the parents of the pupil will agree on what should be done and how much help should be provided.

5. Pupils who fail to complete homework

All pupils will be expected to complete homework on time.

Teachers will keep records of pupils completing homework which are regularly checked.

If pupils fail to complete homework, teachers will contact parents to find what the reason for this is.

Teachers will make efforts to support pupils who are struggling to complete homework and will raise any concerns regarding their pupils' ability to complete homework to the head of school and/or parents as appropriate.

Parents will be contacted if a pupil refuses to complete homework.

6. Marking homework

Homework will be marked orally with the pupil or class.

7. Pupils with SEND

A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the pupil's parents and the SENCO. However, if appropriate they should read a story book and a phonics related book every day.

Where appropriate, the school will set adjusted or specific tasks for pupils with SEND as outlined in their individual education plans.

Pupils with SEND will be supported in accordance with the school's SEND Policy.

8. Equal opportunities

The school will ensure that it provides the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, sex, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background.

All pupils will have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

9.Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed **annually** by the CEO

Any updates to this policy will be shared with parents, pupils and staff.