

King's Meadow Primary School



Homework Policy

Revised September 2013

King's Meadow Primary School

Homework Policy

RATIONALE

Homework should be an extension of children's learning at school together with opportunities to develop and share interests outwith school. Homework should be an enjoyable experience with children being encouraged to show initiative when taking their own learning forward.

AIMS

In King's Meadow, through homework, we aim to:

- build an effective partnership between the school and parents/carers
- consolidate and extend skills and understanding in all areas of the curriculum
- provide experiences that are appropriate to the age and ability of the child
- develop skills in using libraries and other learning resources
- encourage personal organisation and the self-discipline required for lifelong learning.

Homework across the school

Throughout the school, in accordance with Curriculum for Excellence, teachers will provide the stimulus for homework activities and children will have the choice of how they take this learning forward (see Appendices 2 and 3). This work should be seen as being clearly linked to class work and set at a level appropriate to the child's level of ability. Work set should not place an undue burden on the ability of the home or parents in terms of support or resources. Every child should be encouraged to read for at least 20 minutes every night. In P4 parents are encouraged to hear their child read and sign the child's journal. In P5 -7 pupils should read something every night and, although not expected to hear their child read, parents should sign their child's journal to indicate that this has been done. Children will also be encouraged to celebrate their own successes, achievements and interests from outwith school. (See Appendix 1)

See also Parental Involvement Policy and Learning and Teaching Policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Senior Management Team will:

- support the policy by allocating time and resources
- review the policy regularly in conjunction with staff and parents
- monitor the policy through established monitoring procedures

Teachers will:

- provide relevant and meaningful stimulus for possible extension of learning.
- encourage children to develop and share interests and achievements outwith school.

Pupils will:

- inform parents of current homework tasks
- carry out tasks as set by the teacher
- complete homework tasks with the same level of accuracy and neatness as expected in the classroom
- complete work on time
- tell their teacher if the homework is too difficult - or too easy

Parents/Carers will be encouraged to:

- take an active interest in the opportunities provided for extended learning
- ensure that their child has suitable conditions in which this important activity can take place
- check work to ensure that it has been completed and sign the homework diary to indicate this
- contact the school if there is a problem
- support their child with a view to sharing outside interests in class.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The responsibility for the implementation of this policy lies with all staff. However, promoted staff will, through routine quality assurance procedures seek to ensure that it is put into practice. All staff will be involved in evaluating the effectiveness of this policy.



Appendices

APPENDIX 1

Role of the parent:



- To provide a quiet area, free from distractions
- To keep 'an eye on things' - talk about problems/provide support
- To encourage your child to do their best

- To **PRAISE** your child
- To sign the journal to indicate that you are aware of your child's homework
- To keep in touch with school through the journal
- To let the school know if there is a problem

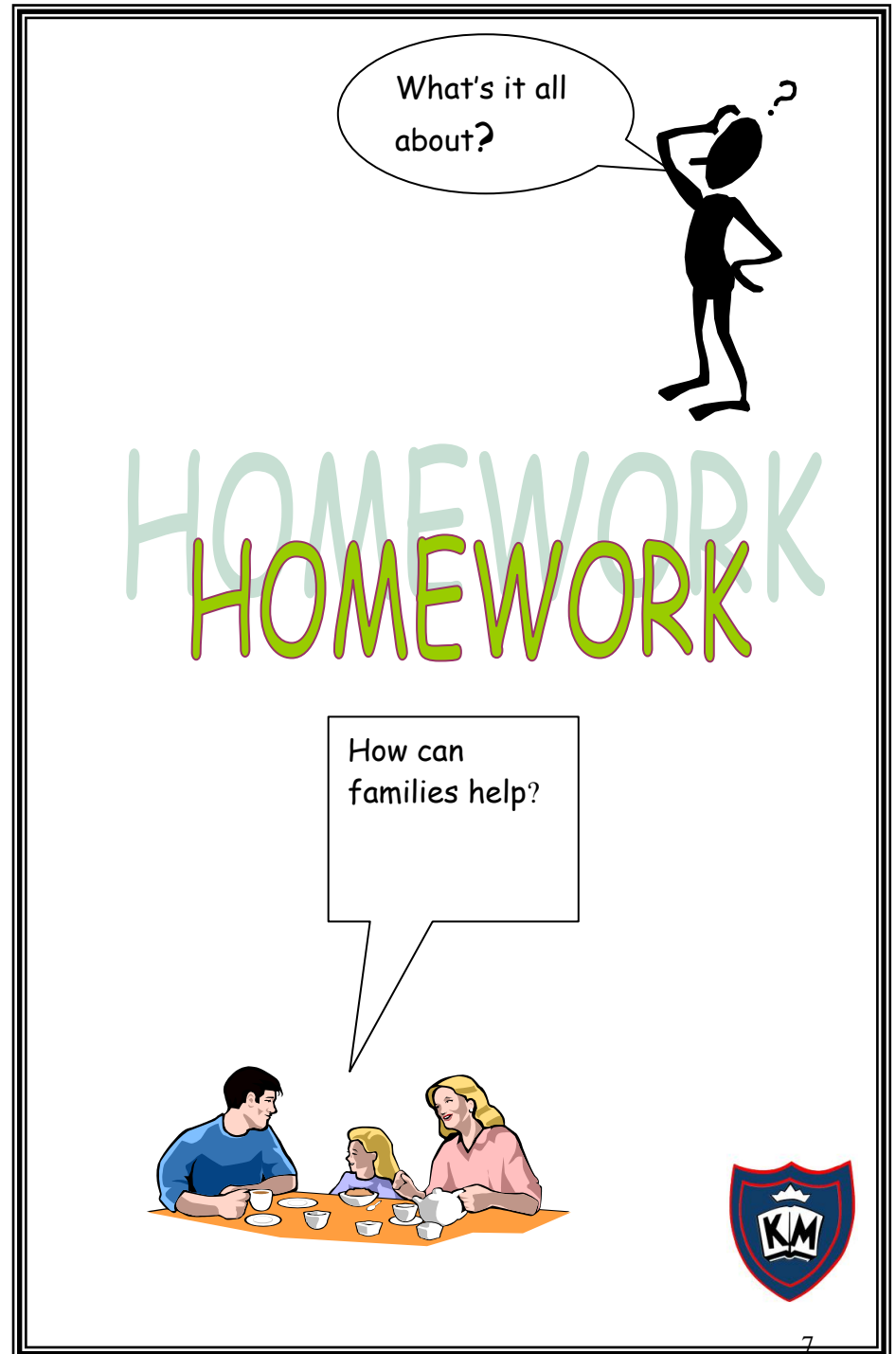
You can:

- Write a note in the journal
- Arrange to talk to the class teacher
- Arrange to talk to the Depute Head Teacher or Head Teacher.

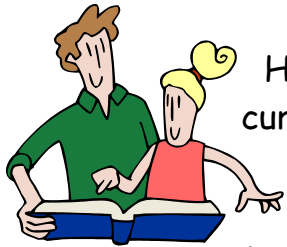
Please visit our website -

<http://edubuzz.org/blogs/King's Meadow>

for more homework ideas.



WHAT IS HOMEWORK?



Homework will be taken from all curricular areas.

It can take the form of written work, preparation for talks, project work, handwriting, spelling, reading, learning tables, practical maths, making models etc

HOW LONG SHOULD IT TAKE?

The following is an average of how long homework should take to complete each day:

P4 15 minutes

P5 20 minutes

P6 25 minutes

P7 30 minutes

If it takes longer than this, leave it and indicate this in your child's homework diary.

In addition, you should also encourage your child to read for around 20 minutes a day.



THE HOMEWORK TEAM - WHO DOES WHAT?



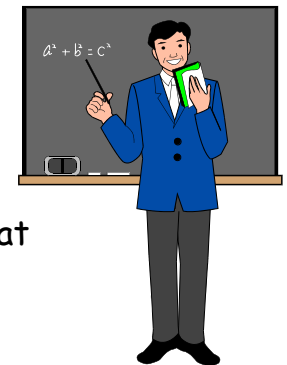
Role of the pupil:



- To make sure that you know what you have to do **before** you leave school
- To do the homework which has been set
- To complete the work as neatly as possible
- To discuss the homework with your parent/helper
- To hand the homework in on time
- To tell your teacher if you found the homework too difficult or too easy.

Role of the teacher:

- To set meaningful homework which encourages learning out of school
- To monitor and evaluate homework
- To ensure that pupils know exactly what they are doing



APPENDIX 2

HOMEWORK IDEAS

Maths

- Baking/cooking - following a recipe\
- Number games eg.
 - Ludo
 - Snap
 - Memory pairs
 - Snakes and ladders
 - Chess
 - Draughts
- Times table practise
 - song
 - rap
 - games
- Planning TV schedule
- Telling the time
- Using money
- Football league tables

Language

- Write song, poems, raps, letters, diary, recipes, instructions, silly sentences using key words, invitations

- TV/sport/film review
- Learn a poem/song
- E-mail friends/relatives/pen-pals
- Write a play script
- Use puppets to tell a story
- Give directions
- Learn some foreign words (use plastic letters to make French words)
- Games eg.
 - Scrabble
 - Boggle
 - Cranium
 - Pictionary
 - Articulate
 - Cluedo

Topic/other

- Visits to library, museum, park, River Tyne, Botanics, beach etc.
- Internet research
- Mind maps
- Fact files
- Topic trees
- Make a model
- Create a podcast, powerpoint, poster, leaflet, report etc.

- Paint a picture
- Take photographs
- Design/create a model, poster, clothing etc.
- Play a sport/musical instrument
- Report back on achievements (medals, certificates etc.)
- Care for a pet
- Gardening
- Baking
- Fundraising/Charity
- Sewing, knitting, woodwork, origami
- Build a den
- Create a game
- Make a treasure map
- Post a comment on the school website
- Make scrapbooks
- Make a miniature world/room/garden in a shoebox

Website

www.bbc.co.uk/learning



KING'S MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL
Homework Information Sheet



We hope the following provides further guidance as to the format homework will take. Your child may also choose to record and share extra curricular achievements and experiences.

READING

This will continue as usual and be recorded in your child's journal. We would encourage you to support your child in reading books other than their 'reading' book eg recipes, magazines, newspapers, library books, street signs, etc

SPELLING

Key words will be issued each week. Suggested ideas for learning/practising the words:

- LACAWAC (Look And Cover And Write And Check).
- Make a wordsearch.
- Make a crossword.
- Write a short story/paragraph, underlining key words.
- Find definitions for any key words using a dictionary.
- Illustrate the keywords.

MATHS

Some weeks your child's maths group will be given a worksheet to complete. On occasions when this is not the case, other suggested activities are:

- Using money - eg. helping with shopping.
- Telling the time.
- Practise times table (eg. song, rap, game)
- Following recipes (weighing ingredients).
- Using a calendar - eg. order of months, days in each month.
- Playing board games and card games.

SOCIAL STUDIES / EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Children will have opportunities to extend their learning in these areas. These opportunities will be of a more open-ended format and suggestions for these will be given by the teacher.

Please refer to class welcome letter for further information regarding days on which homework will be given out and collected in.

A list of suggested extra activities which your child may choose to complete will either be written in his/her homework jotter or available on the school website [www.edubuzz.org.uk/blogs/King's Meadow](http://www.edubuzz.org.uk/blogs/King's%20Meadow) (follow the link to the homework page). Please note there are no deadlines for extra activities.

Thank you for your continued support.