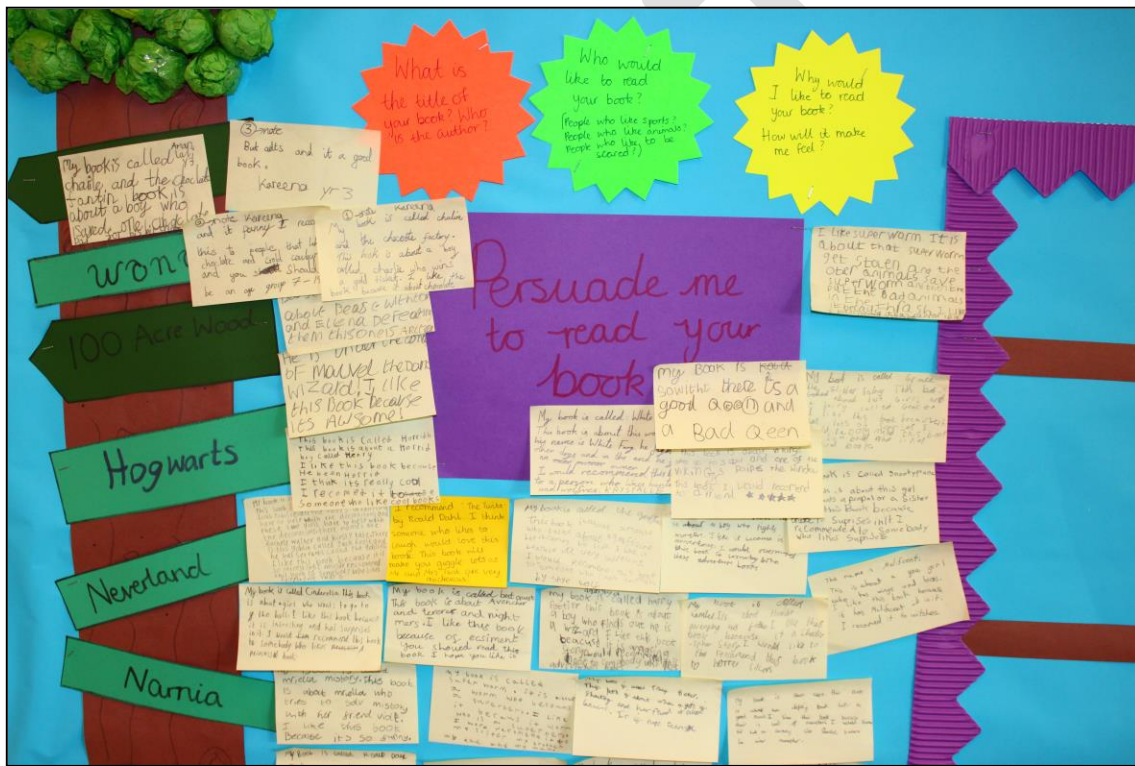


Brady Primary School Homework Policy





Aims of Brady Primary School

“All children can learn considerably more”

At Brady Primary School we aim to provide a safe, caring and stimulating environment, which offers opportunities:-

- For everyone within the school to reach their full potential and develop self-worth, self-confidence, the ability to take responsibility for their own individual actions, and resilience.
- For everyone within the school to have a sense of wonder, an enthusiasm for learning and help children to develop as independent thinkers and learners with enquiring minds.
- To encourage and develop a respect and understanding for others.
- To develop all partnerships, small and large, from the individual parent to the wider community and beyond to support children’s learning.
- To give children access to a broad and balanced creative curriculum to attain the highest possible standards in relation to prior attainment through assessment, teaching and learning.

Equal opportunities and Inclusion

At Brady Primary school we believe that every child is entitled to equal access to the curriculum, regardless of race, gender, class or disability.

We are committed to promoting learning and teaching environments, for all that embed the values of inclusive educational practices.

Through a child centred approach, we aim to ensure that education is accessible and relevant to all our learners, to respect each other and to celebrate diversity and difference.



Rationale

A balanced approach to homework can support and have a positive impact on pupils' progress and attainment in learning. This homework policy has been reviewed with parents, pupils, class representatives and staff. It was agreed that quality homework is an important factor in children's learning which is further enhanced with a consistent approach adopted across the whole school.

The benefits of quality homework may include:

PUPILS

- A sense of responsibility for their own learning.
- An increased ability to study independently.
- Improved pupils self-confidence and motivation.
- Consolidation of class learning.
- Additional learning time.

PARENTS

- The opportunity for parents to share in their child's learning.
- The opportunity to show an interest in their child's education.
- Great opportunity to monitor their child's progress.

We believe that homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy and literacy and other curriculum areas. Thereby fostering an effective partnership between home and school. We value the support of parents/carers and we believe this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the home-school agreement.

We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance, so that children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support whilst still allowing down-time. The homework is structured to encourage a gradual progression of skills and expectations so that by the time children reach Year 6 they have established a clear routine in preparation for secondary school.

The purposes of homework

- At Key Stage 1 the key purpose is the development of a partnership between the school and parents and the active involvement of parents in their children's learning
- To encourage pupils to develop the skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively on their own
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and selfdiscipline needed to study independently
- To consolidate and reinforce the skills and understanding developed at school, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy
- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents in pursuing the aims of the school
- To extend school learning



- To make use of resources for learning which are available at home e.g. adult support, reference books, computers

Types and quantity of homework

The main focus for homework will be on developing and extending learning. Homework is differentiated to take account of individual pupils' needs. At Key Stage 1 homework activities should take about 1 hour each week. In Years 3 and 4 of Key Stage 2 homework activities should take about 1- ½ hours each week. In Years 5 and 6 of Key Stage 2 homework activities should take about 2½ hours each week.

5 Children with Special Education Needs

Children with special education needs (SEN) are not isolated from their class group by not being given homework. It is equally important that homework tasks are set appropriately for children with SEN. Such children may benefit from separate tasks from the rest of the group. The class teacher and SENCO will work with parents to ensure that homework tasks meet the needs of pupils with SEN.

6 Responsibility of the Class teacher

The class teacher:

- Will normally decide the homework schedule and set the homework to be done in line with the aims of this policy.
- Will do his/her best to ensure that the work is manageable for the pupils, parents and the class teacher.
- Is responsible for ensuring that pupils and parents have a clear understanding of the homework task, the learning targets therein, the time frame and for keeping a record of homework set.
- Will ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- Will provide feedback or opportunities for feedback on homework.

7 Responsibility of the Parents

Parents or guardians should:

- Be actively involved in their child's homework activities. This is especially important with children in Key Stage 1.
- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place for doing homework.
- Show their children that they value homework and support the school by explaining how it can help their learning.
 - Keep themselves informed about the homework that has been set and the deadlines involved, in order to support their child.
 - Encourage their children, then praise them for completing homework.
 - Let the school know if they or their child are experiencing difficulty with the type or amount of homework set by the school.

We know that



- Children are tired at the end of the school day.
- Primary school pupils have commitments in the evening e.g. Brownies, karate etc.
- Children work at different speeds and so expect parents to use discretion to ensure that the time spent by their child is reasonable.
- It can be difficult for busy parents to make the time to support children with their homework every evening.

For these reasons the homework set will be spread over a week, depending on the type of homework set, and need not be completed on any one day. We will encourage pupils to complete all homework tasks; however, if completion of a task is vital to children's progress, they may be given the opportunity to do the work at lunchtime at Homework Club or complete the homework at a time deemed reasonable during the school day.

8 Reading

Children from Year R onwards should read regularly at home with parents or guardian if they are working from ditty books. In Key Stage 1 reading and sharing books at home should be a daily activity. At all ages the reading should include the school reading book and other types of books or reading material. For example, a Year 4 pupil might read a reference book in order to find out information for a school topic, or might read and discuss an item in a magazine or newspaper. At upper Key Stage 2, children should be reading for at least 10 minutes each day. This time is included in the recommended weekly homework time, but children should be encouraged to read even when, for example, they are working on Maths homework for that day. It is expected that reading diaries are signed by someone at home at least three times per week as children are rewarded for this in school.

9 Spelling

Spelling is tested weekly. If a child is not secure with HFW this may be a focus for them. HFW or an advanced spelling list is in homework books for parents to work on with their child at home.

13 Availability of Homework

Homework will be given to pupils in a range of forms:

- Paper copy stuck into homework books (if there is no homework book, a paper copy will be sent home)
- On the MLE/blog/website

14 Recording Homework

Each child will have a reading diary in which the adult listening to the child read is expected to record in. Each child will have a homework book in which they can record homework activities. Where a child completes a 3D homework such as a model or hat, this will be photographed and glued into homework books.

15 Feedback on Homework It is important that all homework tasks should be effectively marked and feedback given to the pupil. The support and praise of parents when work is completed at home is a vital initial part of that feedback. The setting and marking of homework can place a significant extra burden on teachers and so tasks will be devised to ensure that the amount and the timing of the marking required is manageable. Not all



homework will be formally marked. It may be marked together in a class or group or pupils may be asked to talk to the class about, for example, research work done.

Our homework policy:

- Ensures consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensures progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- Ensures the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account
- Ensures parents/guardians have a clear understanding of what is expected of them and their child
- Improves the quality of learning experience offered to pupils
- Extends and supports the learning experience via reinforcement and revision
- Provides opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- Provides opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences; encourages children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepares children for secondary transfer at Year 6.



Review

This policy will be reviewed annually. Any alterations that come from this review will be discussed with the Headteacher and ratified by the teaching staff and appropriate governing body sub-committee.

Chair of Governors Date

Headteacher Date

DRAFT