

Policy and Procedure: Homework



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Introduction

Learning at home is an important part of a child's education. Regular homework is important, as it gives pupils the opportunity to practise and improve on basic skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help them throughout their time at school, and in adult life. The 1997 White Paper Excellence in Schools described homework as an essential part of good education.

Aims and Objectives of homework

At Khalsa Science Academy we see homework as a positive way of extending children's learning and a way of strengthening our partnerships with parents/carers. Whilst homework develops children's learning and independence, play and free time are also important. Homework should not prevent children from taking part in activities such as those offered by out-of-school clubs and other organisations. Children develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

The purpose of homework

We value homework for our children in order to:

- Enable them to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- develop skills as independent learners
- promote cooperation between home and school in supporting learning
- enable aspects of the curriculum to be explored and enriched
- consolidate and reinforce learning in school and to enable practice at home
- help children develop good work habits thereby increasing their economic well-being in the future

Homework tasks

Homework given may include any of the following:

Learning Logs – These are presented as nine tasks on a grid enabling children to think creatively about topic/theme. The grid will contain simple tasks in Maths, English, Science and Topic. (Learning logs will be replaced with SATs revision from spring term for applicable year groups.)

Reading - Ideally every child should do some form of reading each day (recommended 10 to 20 minutes). This can include the child being read to, the child reading aloud to an adult or, for more experienced readers, reading on their own. Parents need to complete their child's reading record and ensure that their child's reading record is returned to school.

Spelling – Weekly spelling lists will be given for children to practise at home. Pupils may be asked to investigate spelling patterns and rules or to learn spellings by heart.

Times tables and number bonds - Children are encouraged to commit these to memory to improve speed of recall. Teachers will specify particular tables for their classes to learn. Children from Reception to Year 5 should receive weekly mental maths facts.

Role of parents / carers

Parents / carers play a vital role in their child's education, including homework. Parents / carers should help by encouraging and discussing ideas and by ensuring their child has a good working space at home. Parents should contact the class teacher with questions / concerns.

Inclusion and equal opportunities

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that the tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. Nearly always, tasks are open-ended so each child can enjoy and achieve to their full potential. If the task is not open-ended (eg Spelling and Maths facts) homework will be adapted / differentiated. When setting homework for pupils with Special Educational Needs, we take their individual needs into consideration. Parents may contact the SEND Co discuss any concerns.