



Burton Leonard C of E Primary School

'With God's help, we do all we can to be the best we can be' -Philippians 4:13

Inspire, Believe, Respect, Achieve - Together We Shine

A place where everyone matters and we happily flourish in our Christian community



Burton Leonard C of E Primary School Homework Policy & Procedures April 2023

Our Vision

Throughout their time at Burton Leonard VC Primary School the vision for our pupils is that they:

Are Inspired
Believe
Are Respectful
Achieve
Flourish

Rationale

Our new policy aims to:

- create transparency for parents as to expectations around homework
- help parents to understand the value the school places on homework
- empower parents to support their child's learning at home.

In undertaking a review of this policy all stakeholders' views were collected and are reflected in this policy (January 2023).

At Burton Leonard C of E Primary School 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.

School values the support that parents provide their children in learning at home, but also recognises that family life is busy and children have active lives, with varied interests out of school which are equally valuable to a child's development, wellbeing and education.

Our homework expectations have been carefully considered with this in mind. Teachers only set homework that is recognised through research as being most effective for reinforcing what has been taught in school and which will have the most impact on their child's learning.

The approach we are adopting is research-driven and one of setting small chunks of learning to be delivered little and often, so tasks are manageable in the wider frame of family life whilst also having the most impact on learning.

Additional materials are suggested and may be accessed by families who would like further optional homework. Teachers will provide materials for self-marking at home to support progress.

We have carefully selected the homework tasks outlined below for the following reasons:

- **To develop a love of reading**

Regularly reading to a child for the love of it provides a connection between parent and child from the very early days and helps build strong family ties. By starting the journey of building a lifelong love of reading for pleasure, parents are giving their child the opportunity to be the best they can be: research shows children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school and it also positively impacts children's wellbeing.

Key Findings:

"Readers who can and do choose to read regularly and widely, are giving themselves unofficial reading lessons of significant value - cognitively, socially, and emotionally. Reading for pleasure matters." Cremin, Teresa (2023); Reading for pleasure: Recent research insights; School Libraries in View (SLIV) (47) pp.6-12

- **To support school in helping students retain information they have learned and commit this to the long term memory**

Research shows that for children to know and remember more and be successful in their learning, they need to practice certain skills on a daily basis - little and often. This ensures that this information is committed to long term memory, enabling children to work more fluently in these areas.

Key Findings:

"Five to ten minutes has the same effect of one hour to two hours...The best thing you can do is to reinforce something you've already learnt." Hattie (2014)

- **To connect parents with their child's education**

Parental engagement in children's education has a beneficial impact on a child's success in school. Homework provides a great way for parents to become involved in supporting their child's learning, offering support where needed and an understanding of their child's progress.

Key Findings:

"Parental involvement with homework and engagement in their child's education are related to higher academic performance, better social skills and behavior, and increased self-confidence."

Kiser, Selena (2020)

- **To give pupils a routine and create good habits**

Many aspects of a pupil's future life will require, at times, work to be completed outside of working hours as well as independently. This is expected at secondary school.

A homework policy encourages a consistency for out-of-school learning and helps students develop productive working practices and habits for continued learning and independent working.

Statement of Intent

Through this policy we intend to:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- Ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding regarding homework expectations
- Extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision
- Provide opportunities for families to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepare for secondary school expectations of homework

Homework Expectations

The progression of homework expectations across school can be found within this policy; teachers will share the expectations for their class and year groups via Arbor. This will also be available to view on the school website for ease.

SEND

Setting the right type and amount of homework for children with a special educational need will need careful consideration by the class teacher, in discussion with the SENCo and parents/carers.

This policy applies equally to pupils with a special educational need and should be applied in accordance with their individual need and adaptations made accordingly.

Additional tasks

There will be occasions when class teachers need to set additional homework tasks.

This will be sent via Arbor by the class teacher to parents when necessary.

Support from home

We thank you for your support in ensuring that homework is completed conscientiously and in the best possible conditions. A calm, quiet and organised area to work is the ideal place to complete homework.

If homework is not completed children are often at a disadvantage in class, as many homework tasks are discussed in class and often inform future learning.

Teachers will support pupils on an individual basis to complete homework in school, if it is not being completed at home and is putting them at a disadvantage. Class teachers will discuss this with parents/carers.

Any further questions on homework can be referred to class teachers.