

# ROWAN GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL



## HOMEWORK POLICY

### POLICY REVIEW

This policy has been reviewed in line with the following: (Reviewer please tick box)

- a) Ensuring the policy is up to date and meets mandatory requirements

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- b) Ensuring the policy is fit for purpose and that practice adheres to the policy.

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*Reviewed and Updated in September 2023 by Sue Morris, Head of Provision*

*The policy was ratified by Teaching & Learning Subcommittee*

***Policy will be reviewed again in September 2024***

# ROWAN GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL



## HOMEWORK POLICY

*This school policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching and support staff and has the full agreement of the governing body.*

*This policy reflects the philosophy of the Equality Policy, the Mission Statement and the School Aims in relation to the whole curriculum.*

### Context

At Rowan Gate we strive to work in partnership with parents and carers to facilitate the development of each pupil. By doing this we endeavour to achieve our beliefs which are:

- Inclusion is at the heart of all we do.
- Children learn best when teaching is memorable, purposeful and meaningful
- All children can achieve.
- How children learn is as important as what children learn.
- Children learn when they are happy and secure.

### Definition:

**Homework may be defined as:** Any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents / carers.

### Aims:

- to aid each pupil's progress towards achieving his or her full potential with the assistance, support and cooperation of parents/carers.
- to promote parental / carer understanding and home support for children's learning
- to provide an enjoyable and purposeful supplement to class work.
- to provide opportunities for the pupil to practise what has been learnt in class, including the development of the basic skills
- to provide a practical opportunity for parents/carers to become involved in the academic development of their child.

### What sort of activities should children be doing?

Our homework activities are related to the work your children are doing at school and are linked to the curriculum your child follows. This varies with different classes and you will be informed at the beginning of each term in the class newsletter about topics your child is working on.

When it is appropriate, reading books will be sent home regularly and parents are strongly encouraged to record reading activities in the pupil's reading diary.

### **How will homework be set & completed?**

For many children, homework will be set using Microsoft 365 Teams. This allows teachers to upload tasks for the children to complete and for families to support children in completing and returning these electronically. For some children, parents may prefer to complete activities practically; teachers will liaise with families to ascertain the most appropriate format.

### **Formal Curriculum and Semi-Formal Curriculum**

Homework to be set weekly with activities linked to the curriculum. The activities may vary according to individual pupils needs and should take no longer than 15/20 minutes.

### **Pre-Formal Curriculum**

Homework to be set according to the needs of individual pupils, after discussion between parents/carers and teachers.

### **EYFS Curriculum**

Homework suggestions include:

- Playing a game together which practices early learning skills such as picture recognition or sound discrimination – Orchard Toys Games are a good starting point.
- Daily reading and sharing of books is encouraged and makes a huge difference to the development of this important and enjoyable activity.
- Providing/sharing photographs or objects from the home linked to our themes.
- Providing objects from home linked to our letter sound of the week for phonics time.
- Fine or gross motor skills practice e.g. completing a puzzle or practicing Kinetic Letter body positions
- Children may be asked to record weekend news in their news book using symbols, photos, leaflets and so on. We would be pleased to hear children's news and see items relating to their experiences outside of school, to share and celebrate in circle time, for example.

### **Should I help my child with homework?**

Homework allows you to see what your children are doing and to support their learning. This partnership between school and home is a vital part of education.

We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents are involved. If you are unsure about how much help to give, you should communicate with your child's teacher, using the home school book. Parents may be able to support their child's homework with resources from home, such as photographs, a

favourite toy or book which are related to the topic. For some pupils AAC devices may be used to record messages from home about the topic, e.g. the child's weekend news

### **10 things you can do to help your child learn**

1. Give your child confidence through lots of praise and encouragement.
2. Read to, and with, your child as much as possible.
3. Encourage your child to observe and talk about what they see, feel and think.
4. Make use of your local library.
5. Visit museums and other places.
6. If your child likes watching television, watch it together sometimes and talk about what has been watched, eg news round.
7. Try to provide a reasonably quiet and suitable place where your child can work and show that you and all members of the family value and respect the homework activity.
8. Try to set time aside to support your child's homework activities whilst also allowing some independence where appropriate.
9. Encourage your child to discuss their school day with you, relate it to comments in the home school book.
10. Enjoy the activity together. A great source of information for activities to do with your child is: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/50-things-to-do>

The type of homework a child engages in will reflect the child and family's needs and as such, children in the same class may have different types of homework.

The type and frequency of homework is agreed between the pupils, class teacher and parents, in consultation with the Head Teacher.

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We want your children to succeed.

### **Review**

*This policy was revised in September 2023 and will be reviewed annually.*