



Sir John Lillie Primary School Homework Policy

1. INTRODUCTION

This document outlines the Sir John Lillie Primary School ("SJL") Homework Policy. It details how Homework is delivered throughout SJL, in both the curriculum and other aspects of school life. This policy is reviewed on an annual basis or as circumstances require.

At Sir John Lillie Primary, we acknowledge the value homework gives to our learners, and through a good home-school partnership endeavour to work together with parents and carers to extend and enhance learning opportunities for our children.

Homework is intended to be an enjoyable and worthwhile activity for all and should not be allowed to cause distress to pupils, parents or teachers. While every effort is made to ensure that this occurs any problems should be discussed as soon as they arise so problems are avoided.

2. AIMS

Homework aims to:

- develop and embed basic skills
- develop the understanding of using these skills in a range of projects and daily life
- encourage and develop independent learners.
- develop skills of motivation and self-confidence
- further develop our partnership between school and parents by providing opportunities for pupils, parents and school to work together

3. IMPLEMENTATION

School will:

- set homework regularly, and notify parents/carers which day to expect the homework home.
- ensure that it is appropriate to their current work and is relevant to the needs and abilities of the child.
- ensure that work is marked, where necessary, and provide positive feedback which encourages pupils to regularly complete tasks
- inform parents/carers if a child falls behind on their homework
- inform parents/carers of the main topics being covered
- provide a homework club to support some children with the completion of their homework
- For those children who attend playcentre, a time slot is given each evening for children to complete homework tasks with adult support.

Pupils will:

- read everyday
- complete homework tasks in the time allocated and hand it in to the teacher on time
- produce the best work they possibly can
- know that help will be given at school if they ask for it.

Parents are asked:

- to comment and sign reading records to inform teachers of reading progress
- to provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place to do homework, and basic equipment to complete the tasks e.g. pencils, ruler, scissors etc.
- give praise and encouragement for the completion of homework
- encourage their child to ask for help, before the completion date, if they are unable to complete it
- make it clear to children that they think homework is important and support school in its implementation
- give support and help where necessary but do not do the homework for the child support children in completing tasks and return work in a tidy presentable state regularly visit the school website for further ideas for supporting their child's learning
- inform the school if there are any difficulties preventing the homework from being completed.

4. HOMEWORK TASKS

Homework will be given on **Google Classroom** and sometimes tasks will be given on the newsletter or on challenge sheets.

There are also links on the school website to relevant websites to support learning in school.

Literacy

Speaking and listening is a very important skill that can be developed through discussing with your child what he/she has been doing during the day on the walk to and from school or when they arrive home.

Reading is very important, and all children benefit from sharing books or other appropriate printed materials (newspapers, magazines, recipe books, instruction manuals etc.) with other members of the family every day. Parents should use the reading record to communicate with the school, about their child's reading.

Spelling: Children will be given a set of spellings to be learnt for a test. These will be linked to the words in the curriculum. These will be adapted for the ability of the child. It is important that children understand the meaning of the words and their use within a sentence. We recommend that when you help your child to learn their spellings you use the following method:

LOOK at the word carefully
READ the word aloud
COVER the word up
WRITE the word from memory
CHECK to see if the word has been spelt correctly

Repeat this process until the word has been spelt correctly. Please try to encourage children to learn a few words every evening, rather than leaving it all to the last moment.

Maths

Maths homework is used to consolidate and practise skills taught in class. Involving children in practical activities such as cooking, shopping and playing board games develops an understanding of number and other mathematical ideas.

To enhance your child's understanding of number, we strongly recommend practising basic skills at home and on the way to and from school. These include:

- Counting forwards/backward
- Number bonds
- Multiplication tables
- Division facts.

Teaching your child to tell the time and encouraging your child to use measuring tools accurately are skills that can be learnt more quickly in a home setting and we actively encourage parents/carers to support children in this way.

Other subject areas

School projects in other subject areas can be followed up at home, thus deepening the child's understanding. There are many ways that this can be encouraged;

- visiting places of interest
- using libraries and museums
- making models and games
- taking photos
- watching a television documentary together and discussing

A short maths or topic task may also be sent home. This generally consists of practicing maths skills and number facts. Topic tasks are generally open ended to encourage children to find things out and work creatively.

Parents are informed of topic every half term.

5. **AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK**

Homework is uploaded on to Google Class for children to access.

Nursery: Children are encouraged to read for fun with parents and carers. Books chosen by the children are sent home every week.

Reception: **Reading daily.** One book is carefully matched to the child's phonic levels. A second book is chosen by the child from the book corner to read for pleasure with grown-ups at home.
Children are given 3 keywords every week to practise reading and spelling.

Year 1: **Reading daily.** All children take home 2 books. One book is carefully matched to their phonic level and the other is a choice made by them for reading with their family. Spellings to practice each week.
Spellings: Given each week.

Year 2: **Reading daily.** Children who are still working on phonics continue to have a book carefully matched to their level.
All children take home a book of their own choice to read with the family.

Years 3: **Daily reading.**
Spellings and **times tables** are uploaded on to Google Class on a Friday for use in class work and a test the following week.

A short maths and/or topic task may also be sent home. This generally consists of practising maths skills and number facts. Topic tasks are generally open ended to encourage children to find things out and work creatively.

Years 4 and 5: **Daily reading**
Spellings and **times tables** are uploaded on to Google Class on a Friday for use for in class work and a test the following week
Research projects will be given to support learning through each term.

Year 6: **Daily reading**
Spellings and **times tables** are uploaded on to Google Class on a Friday for use in class work and a test the following week.
CGP practice books.
Research projects will be given to support learning through each term.

To aid the transition to secondary school Year 6 pupils will be expected to complete a set amount of homework each week. This could include online programmes, CGP books and research projects. This amount will increase as the year goes on to enable the year 6 pupils to be prepared for what is expected at secondary school. If pupils do not complete the homework each week there will be a sanction in line with expectations at secondary school.

Parents/carers are asked to monitor homework and inform the school if any issues arise.

If parents/carers wish to encourage their child to complete more work at home, they are advised to visit the school website or blog page for recommendation of websites to further support their child's learning.

For any reason a pupil does not have a reading record to sign the parent should write a short note for their child to give to their teacher stating the date and the title of the book they heard their child read.

Marking

It is important that marking is concentrated on in-class work where the teacher can establish how much a child can work independently. Much of the work set for homework will be acknowledged through discussion in class, peer marking, tests or put on display.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

We will provide equal opportunities to all our children, regardless of gender, race or disability. For more information on equal opportunities, please refer to SJL's "Equal Opportunities" policy.

7. MONITORING

The Senior Management Team will oversee the setting of homework by monitoring procedures and through discussions with colleagues, pupils and parents.