



Homework Policy

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Homework Policy

At Norwich Road Academy we provide all children with learning activities to complete at home to enable them to practise skills and reinforce what they have already done during the academy day. Sometimes the aim is to repeat something done in class as a practise exercise. On other times, the homework will ask children to apply their learning to a new context. Generally, children will not be given work to do at home that they have not previously encountered in class, unless it is a project which asks them to find out about something new. For example, to do their own research project about the Romans.

Intent

We aim to provide opportunities at home for parents/carers to work alongside their child or children, to support their learning experiences and achievement. This is because we want to work as a partnership in your child's learning – Norwich Road Academy, the child and their parents/carers working together to help children to reach their full potential. As adults, we can all provide role modelling of how to approach tasks and solve problems, in addition to promoting a love for lifelong learning. This approach supports our mission statement: *Building our love of learning together.*

The reinforcement of certain skills at an early age provides the building blocks to later learning. It is therefore vitally important that key understanding is secured as early as possible. Activities that support phonics, spelling, handwriting and number facts are integral. These, along with encouraging a love of reading can be well supported at home. We look to parents and carers to work together with us to secure these with us.

Homework supports, extends and consolidates the learning covered in the classroom, while encouraging children to develop self- discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

Homework can:

- further stimulate enthusiasm for learning
- encourages responsibility for learning and independence
- give a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as phonics, reading and times tables
- take advantage of the home environment and resources
- be a great source for gathering curriculum information
- inform parents/carers about work going on in class and their child's achievements
- give an opportunity for one-to-one adult time
- extend school learning with additional activities and research

- secure key knowledge with extra practice and 'overlearning'
- support communication between home and school
- help to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of high school.

Implementation

Reading:

The most important homework activity that children can be supported to do is regular reading. Being a capable reader supports progress across the curriculum and creates greater opportunities throughout life. Children attending Norwich Road Academy will have books sent home to support them with this. Additional visits to libraries, book shops and the ability to access magazines etc. are always beneficial too.

Children should have daily access to their reading books at home and it expected that parents and carers will support with this. By listening to their children read for at least 5-10 minutes a day, parents and carers are providing good excellent academic scaffolding. Each child has a reading diary, in which progress and comments from home should be noted. Our academy reading reward scheme promotes reading both at home and school by acknowledging these efforts by children and their families.

Learning activities:

Specific learning activities will be uploaded weekly onto ClassDojo by class teachers. These activities will include a range of rehearsal of key facts and learning tasks that will support the curriculum. If families are having difficulty accessing this platform, for whatever reason, we are happy to support with technical advice or resources to ensure that no children are missing out or left behind.

Key principles:

- Teacher's incorporate homework into their weekly planning and ensure that the tasks are differentiated, purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills
- As the children progress through the school, the amount of homework will increase.
- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Teachers provide parents and pupils with a consistent academy format for homework, to support parents and its completion.

- High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.

How can parents/carers help their child(ren)?

By

- providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support;
- making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning;
- encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set;
- checking regularly on Class Dojo to see if any tasks have been set or whether there is a message from the teacher;
- ensuring work is completed and returned to school on time;
- checking that your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework.

Additionally, parents/carers can support their child's development by:

- visits to libraries, museums etc.;
- cooking with them;
- taking your child swimming;
- playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games;
- watching informative TV programmes together;
- providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.;
- gardening and growing plants;
- using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use);
- Attending any school workshops that may be on offer designed to enable Parents/Carers to support their child's learning at home;
- Talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning.

We want to work together with parents/carers to do help their child be the best they can possibly be and reach their full potential. If you have any concerns about the homework set, please contact your child's class teacher. We are happy to help.

If children deliberately do not attempt to do homework (and this does not include when family emergencies occur), children may be required to use free time during the academy day to catch up with their peers. We wish to promote positive strategies to learning, including homework, to support future achievement. If a teacher has a concern regarding homework

completion, they will contact with the child's parent/carer to discuss this further to find a way forward. We make it very clear that we expect everyone to be treated equally and all children are required to complete homework set.

Impact

By children's learning being well supported both in the academy and at home, they are facilitated to make good and sustained progress. With the encouragement of positive role models and well-pitched learning, children are not only able to fulfil their potential but also improve their life chances and success later in life.

'Building our love of learning together'

Linked policies

Class Dojo Policy
Curriculum Policy
English Policy
Mathematics Policy
Online Safety Policy

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