



STAG LANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Status- recommended

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Shared with Staff Autumn 2005

Date for review- Spring 2008

Homework Policy

Purpose

At Stag Lane Middle School we recognise that learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important; since it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks covered in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school, and in adult life. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that everyone is informed of what is expected in terms of homework for our pupils and will be shared with parents and staff. It also aids consistency across the school.

Homework will, therefore, help do the following-

- * Develop a home — school partnership
- * Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding
- * Extend school learning

Who was consulted?

Parents, pupils and staff were consulted in the construction of this policy. The guidelines for homework from the DfES was also taken into account.

Policy

At Stag Lane Middle the focus of homework will be on the important skills of literacy and numeracy. We also strongly recommend that regular reading takes place at home, as well as spelling and times tables practice.

As children move up in the school there will be other tasks such as investigating and preparing information as well as traditional writing tasks. In Yr6 there will be a high expectation that children carry out revision in preparation of the tests in May. Assignments will not necessarily be pencil and paper activities.

Children may also bring home work that has not been completed in the allocated time in school.

Recommended time for homework

Year	Time to be spent on homework	Types of Homework
4	1.5 hours	Literacy, Numeracy and occasional assignments in other subjects
5	30 mins daily	Literacy and Numeracy, and increasing assignments in other subjects
6	30 mins daily and 30 mins additional work in the Spring Term for revision	Literacy, Numeracy, Science and increasing assignments in other subjects
7	45 mins -1 hour a day	Literacy, Numeracy, Science and increasing assignments in other subjects

Implementation

- * We will ensure that homework is an integral part of the curriculum and that it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning.
- * Pupils are expected to record the tasks set for homework and ensure that they understand what is required of them. They need to demonstrate that they have a commitment to spending an allocated time doing the tasks set and handing the work back on time.
- * We hope that parents and carers will encourage and monitor homework and inform the school through the homework diary if an issue arises.
- * If a parent feels that particular circumstances (e.g. prolonged absence from school) warrant additional homework this should be discussed with the classteacher.
- * Additional homework will not normally be set simply because a child is being taken out of school for a family holiday.
- * Homework set will be followed up in class and it should be made clear to children that, unless clearly specified, homework tasks are not optional.
- * Failure to complete a homework task should be treated in the same way as failure to complete a piece of class work.

Role of the Headteacher

It is the Headteacher's responsibility to ensure that the homework policy is implemented and that there is consistency across the school. It is also the Headteacher's responsibility to inform parents of the policy and involve them in the review and evaluation of the Homework Policy.

Role of the Teachers

- * To ensure that homework is set in line with this policy
- * To give appropriate feedback to the pupils, e.g. ticks, verbal feedback
- * To keep a record of homework set and completed
- * To be aware of children in their class who may require differentiated work and prepare homework accordingly
- * To read and sign the Homework Diary at least every two weeks
- * To inform parents if a child fails to complete homework on 3 occasions when no satisfactory explanation has been received. If this does not achieve an improvement, the class teacher will inform the Headteacher who will liaise with parents.

Role of the Parents

We ask that parents:-

- * be informed of the expectations of the children
- * are actively involved in homework tasks and activities
- * spend some time each week reading with their child and going over spelling
- * sign the Homework Diary
- * inform the school of any problems or reasons why work has not been done (the Homework Diary can be used for messages)
- * provide a good environment for their children to do their homework.

We are pleased to offer any advice or help should the need arise. It is important to note that parents will be charged for a replacement diary.

Monitoring, Review and Evaluation

This policy will be monitored termly to ensure consistent implementation across each year group and the school. It will also be reviewed every two years and parents' views on the policy collected. The Homework Policy will be reviewed by all staff in three years.

Relationship to other policies

Curriculum policies and SEN Policy, Marking Policy.