



# Little Gaddesden

## C. of E. Primary School



### HOMEWORK POLICY

Approved March 2019

Review by March 2022

At Little Gaddesden School we recognize how important the links between home and school are, and the need for teachers and parents to work together to ensure a good education for all the children. For this reason, we believe that it is important for children to take work and tasks home from an early age.

#### 1. AIMS

- To encourage children to work independently
- To encourage children to take responsibility for their own work
- To consolidate or extend work done in class
- To help raise the standards of achievement
- To help prepare children for future class/topic work as appropriate
- To accustom children to homework in preparation for Secondary School
- To foster links between home and school
- To help children learn to organize and plan their time

#### 2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR HEAD TEACHER, OTHER STAFF, GOVERNORS

The **Head Teacher** will ensure that homework is:

- an integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- coordinated in order to be manageable for children on a daily basis
- informed by DfE guidance about time commitments.

**Teachers** will ensure that:

- homework is set and marked in line with guidance and agreed standards
- tasks are differentiated and well structured
- pupils understand the purpose of the homework tasks
- it is clear to pupils how their homework consolidates and extends the work they are doing in school.

**Governors** will ensure that:

- they receive feedback from surveys from pupils and parents.
- review the homework policy every three years

### **3. LIAISON BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOL**

The teaching staff will try to keep parents informed if their child is not doing their homework conscientiously. Children who do not hand in their homework on time may be given extension time of a day, but if there is a problem in this over a period of time, the teacher will inform parents of the situation. We hope that parents will support their children in making sure all homework is done on time and to the best of their child's ability.

We hope that the children will enjoy their homework tasks and will approach them enthusiastically. As the children progress up through the school time spent completing homework will gradually increase, so that they are well used to homework and have developed good self-organizational skills by the time they start at secondary school.

The older children may be asked to complete homework at lunch or playtime if it is unfinished or of a poor standard. The children will be provided with the necessary resources to do their homework.

Sometimes parents can have problems with children doing their homework and if this is the case, please make an appointment to come in and see the class teacher.

### **4. OTHER INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS**

Different teachers have different methods of testing and marking homework but there will be following up as appropriate. With written sheets these will be marked by the child (under controlled conditions) and/or by the teacher, and a written record kept of children who have not handed in their sheets.

Although organization may vary from class to class, children will be made aware of the time scale given to complete their homework; this could be the next day or the following week depending on the task.

Planning, preparing and collecting homework and following it up do take the class teacher a sizeable amount of time. Work brought in regularly, on time, helps both the teacher and the child considerably and allows the child to benefit fully.

Children are often motivated to do work in addition to what has been set and we would try to encourage these efforts and build on them.

## **5. HOW PARENTS CAN HELP THEIR CHILDREN**

There are many ways in which parents can help their children set up good habits for the future. Here are some guidelines for parents to ensure successful completion of homework:

- Show interest in and support what your child is doing. Make sure that your child knows that you value the importance of the task, however small.
- Encourage your child to plan other activities on the basis that there is homework to be done. Discourage last minute rushes!
- Take time to test your child's spellings and tables. Many children find these very difficult to do without help.
- Class topics are mentioned in the teachers' letters sent out at the start of each term. It can really help your child if you talk about these and perhaps visit the library and get books on the subject.
- Encourage reading! KS2 children in particular, need to be setting time to read and assimilate a wide variety of books. Your class teacher can give advice on suitable literature. Discuss books with your child and encourage them to find out the meaning of words and use dictionaries and reference books.
- Try to provide a quiet area where your child can work without interruption.
- Give your child help and guidance if they are having difficulty and encourage him/her to see the teacher if they are not clear about something. If possible, guide rather than give direct answers.
- Check the presentation and neatness of work and encourage time on task and pride in this area.
- Try to avoid battles about homework!

## **6. IN SUMMARY**

At Little Gaddesden School we feel that homework is a valuable way of helping the children to get the most from their education, but it is vital that there is parental support and back up if this is to be of benefit. Our overall aim is to work together successfully with parents to help all the children both in the present and in the future.