

# Homework at Bishop's Waltham Junior School

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## Introduction

The Ofsted Framework highlights the importance of setting homework that is appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come.

At Bishop's Waltham Junior School, we believe in a consistent and progressive approach to homework across the whole school. This information is intended to give clear guidance to parents and carers on the setting and expectations of homework.

## Role of School

As a whole school we shall ensure:

- That there is a consistent and progressive approach towards homework across the school.
- That the tasks set are reasonable and matched to the pupils' needs.
- That some tasks are designed to consolidate and deepen children's learning.
- That some tasks are designed to prepare children for upcoming work in their lessons.
- That there are clear instructions and expectations outlined on each task.
- That we will support and listen to parents who ask for our help.

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Parents / Carers

We would encourage parents / carers to:

- Take an active interest in their child's homework.
- Support the school by ensuring their child attempts the homework.
- Provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- Encourage their child and praise their efforts.
- Support their child in completing particular tasks.

## Role of Child

It is important for the child to:

- Make sure they know what is required to be able to complete the task.
- Complete tasks on time and hand their homework in on time.
- Attempt each task to the best of their ability.
- Take pride in the way they present their work.

As children move up through the school, they are expected to take increasing responsibility for both completing their homework, and bringing it in on time. When homework is not completed, they may be asked to complete the task during a break time so that this learning isn't lost. This helps them to prepare for the expectations of secondary school.

### Marking and Feedback

Homework is an important and valued aspect of school life. Marking homework ensures children are given feedback on how well they have met the objectives of the work. However, the marking may take a variety of forms, some of which may not be written. In many cases, homework will be marked by the child in a way which is directed by the teacher. This allows them to see, immediately, where they have succeeded, and where they need extra practise.

### Homework Guidelines

At BWJS, we aim to have a consistent approach to homework across the school. Nevertheless, there will be some variation between year groups to reflect children's increasing abilities and responsibilities.

Year group	Homework expectations
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reading</b> - 10 minutes daily. Ideally, the child should read to an adult at least twice a week.</li> <li>• <b>English / Maths</b> – Children will be set a homework task every two weeks, alternating between English and maths. Children will be expected to complete a task linked to the work from the classroom.</li> <li>• <b>Family Learning</b> - This task is set every two weeks and links to the current topic being taught in the year group.</li> <li>• <b>Spellings</b> - These will be in the form of spelling sentences, given to the children every 2 weeks. They will be based on a spelling rule they have learnt within their English lessons.</li> </ul> <p><b>The date the task is set and the handing in date of the task will be clearly indicated on each piece of homework, along with details of what the task entails.</b></p>
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reading</b> - 10 minutes daily. Children should still be heard to read regularly. They should fill in their time tracker each time they read, and will be presented with a certificate after each stage is complete.</li> <li>• <b>English/Maths</b> - Children will be set a homework task each week, alternating between English and maths. Children will be expected to complete a task linked to the work from the classroom or in preparation for an upcoming unit of work (English only).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Topic</b> - This will link closely to English and may require the children to carry out research in preparation for their new topic or to use this topic as a stimulus for writing.</li> <li>• <b>Spellings</b> - These will be in the form of spelling sentences, given to the children every 3 weeks, based on a spelling rule they have learnt within their English lessons.</li> </ul> <p><b>The date the task is set and the handing in date of the task will be clearly indicated on each piece of homework, along with details of what the task entails.</b></p>
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reading</b> – 10 minutes daily. This should be recorded in the child’s reading log. Children are expected to read to an adult twice a week, and obtain an adult’s signature in their log to verify this.</li> <li>• <b>English</b> – English tasks are based around a focus SPAG area and come in the form of a series of differentiated questions. 1 – 2 pages of SPAG are set each week.</li> <li>• <b>Maths</b> – Maths homework (one page) is given as a set of calculations and sequences based on expected end-of-year targets.</li> <li>• <b>Topic</b> – Homework is only matched to topic works where links are obvious. Sentence level work in English may co-ordinated to topic work.</li> <li>• <b>Spellings</b> - Spellings are given out every other week and tested twice. Best handwriting is expected in spelling tests.</li> </ul> <p><b>Work is given out on a Thursday and expected in on the following Tuesday.</b></p>
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reading</b> – Children are expected to read every day and maintain their own reading log which should be signed off by an adult at home once a week.</li> <li>• <b>English</b> – English homework will be done in the CGP SPAG book. It will usually correspond to areas that have recently been taught in class. Two – four pages will usually be set depending on the amount of writing each page demands.</li> <li>• <b>Maths</b> – Maths is given out in sets. It will usually test calculation strategies and recent learning, though the format will vary between sets. Children are also expected to practise their times tables at home – the support set in particular is given additional resources to help with this.</li> <li>• <b>Topic</b> – Homework does not generally link to topic work. Occasionally, project work or research work might be set.</li> <li>• <b>Spellings</b> – Children are given differentiated spelling sentences every fortnight. These will be tested twice, in the two following weeks.</li> </ul>

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