

Queen Eleanor's Church of England Junior School
An Academy in the Good Shepherd Trust
Queen Eleanor's Road, Onslow Village,
Guildford, GU2 7SD
Homework Policy



Date	Review Date	Coordinator
08/09/2022	September 2024	Whole Staff

1. Aims

We believe that the setting of regular homework encourages children to practise at home the tasks covered in class, and helps the pupils to work towards improving important skills as well as taking responsibility for their own work. It also fosters greater independence in learning and is therefore an integral part of their education.

Homework enables parents to become more closely involved with their children's learning and the work they complete in school. Parental support is very important and valued in ensuring that the school's homework policy is successful.

It is important that homework is set appropriately and consistently throughout the school, and that both pupils and parents are clear about what is set and the school's expectations for its completion. This policy outlines the principles and strategies for the setting of homework.

2. Aims

Through the setting of homework we aim to:-

- Support the work carried out in the classroom
- Provide reinforcement or development as appropriate to a child's needs in order to further attainment
- Allow parents greater involvement in their child's education and strengthen links between home and school
- Nurture in our children a sense of responsibility, self-discipline towards work and to develop in them good work-related habits such as organisational skills
- To prepare children for the increased workloads at secondary school
- To encourage basic skills of reading and for children to practise them with an adult

3. What the school will offer

At the start of each school term the school will send out a Curriculum Map to Parents and Carers about what their children will be learning in school and how this can be supported at home.

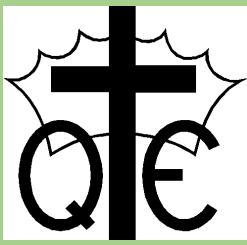
We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life and ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child.

4. Our homework structure

The school is aware of the pressures placed on the home environment and the organisational difficulties that homework can create but the class teachers value the support that parents can give to ensuring that work is undertaken diligently.

The workload should not overburden a child who has had a long and stimulating day in school, and the class teachers should ensure that any homework set adheres to the principles that tasks be :-

- Clearly understood by the child and realistically time-bonded
- Wherever possible, differentiated appropriately to meet the needs and abilities across the class.
- Planned alongside class work (as detailed on weekly Year Group plans), and not planned to introduce new concepts, with the exception of the Year 6 ILTs.
- Based on the teaching and learning principles of our school.



5. Strategies

- Each child has a homework diary which is filled in at the time of setting the homework. Teachers are responsible for ensuring that each child records their homework accurately. Parents are expected to sign the diary once the homework has been completed, and the teachers regularly check that this has been done.
- Teachers will support children in completing their homework within school time if the homework has not been completed or if they are struggling to complete it at home.
- We try to give practical strategies to children who find difficulty in organising themselves, as well as encouraging the support and co-operation of parents.
- Homework tasks, in line with DfE guidance, will normally take about 90 minutes for years 3 & 4 across the week and 120 minutes for years 5 & 6 to complete and will be set regularly each week, with children having 72 hours to hand the work in. Lengthier pieces of work, such as research, may be allowed longer periods and can run for a term or half term.
- If homework is not completed satisfactorily or not handed in at all, the teacher may decide that it is necessary for the children to complete that homework in school during break or lunch time.

6. Maths

Maths homework will alternate each week between practical activities and calculations based tasks. The practical activities may include use of the My Maths website or could be an investigation or maths game. The calculations week may be more paper and pencil based activities or worksheets depending on the area being studied. Times tables are set on a Monday and are tested on a Friday.

7. Creative Writing

The school has worked hard over the last few years to improve the standard of the children's writing at QE. Pivotal to this improvement has been the introduction of creative writing homework. The children complete grammar tasks each week and then a piece of creative writing at the end of the writing unit linked to the genre/subject matter they have been focusing on. The creative writing is marked in detail and children are provided with accurate feedback and next step targets.

The school invests a lot of time in planning and marking Creative Writing homework and children are also expected to produce work of an appropriate length that is completed independently and to the required standard.

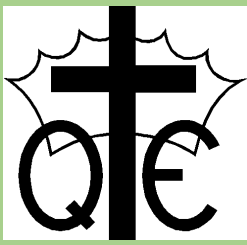
Grammar/Creative Writing homework is set on a Monday and collected the following Monday for every year group.

Cracking Comprehension

As a school, we are using a reading comprehension program called Cracking Comprehension by Rising Stars. This resource allows pupils to access comprehension tests online. Each fortnight, your child's teacher will assign a test that is suitable for their ability to be completed for homework. Each test contains ten questions to be answered. When the test has been completed, the answers will be marked and your child will be able to see how they have done. It also sends a report to the class teacher.

8. Spelling

Children are set their spellings and spelling sentence homework on a Monday to hand in, two weeks later, on the Monday, when they will sit their spelling test.



Children receive a half termly overview of all the spellings and spelling rules they will be learning that term. Children may begin to start learning their spellings for the week ahead over the weekend, before the new spelling homework sheets are sent home.

9. Topic

Topic homework is only set in Year 5 & 6 and is usually based around a project or the completion of an Independent Learning Task (ILT).

10. Homework for Each Year Group

Across the course of a week Year 3 children will be set:

- 1 spelling (to be tested fortnightly)
- 1 Mental Maths/Times Tables (to run continuously across week in preparation for testing at the end of the week)
- 1 piece of Maths
- 1 piece of weekly grammar/creative writing for English
- 1 piece of Cracking Comprehension (fortnightly)
- 3 sessions of reading to an adult and getting the homework diary signed

Reading should take place on 3 days a week. However, we do encourage the children to read as much as they can so 10 minutes is a recommended minimum.

Across the course of a week Year 4 children will be set:

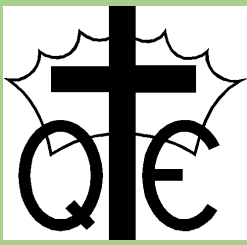
- 1 spelling (to be tested fortnightly)
- 1 Mental Maths/Times Tables (to run continuously across week in preparation for testing at the end of the week)
- 1 piece of Maths
- 1 piece of weekly grammar/creative writing for English
- 1 piece of Cracking Comprehension (fortnightly)
- At least 3 sessions of reading to an adult and getting the homework diary signed.

Across the course of a week Year 5 children will be set:

- 1 spelling (to be tested fortnightly)
- 1 Mental Maths/Times Tables (to run continuously across week in preparation for testing at the end of the week)
- 1 piece of Maths
- 1 piece of weekly grammar/creative writing for English
- 1 piece of Cracking Comprehension (fortnightly)
- 1 piece of project work (ILT in Summer Term)
- At least 3 or 4 sessions of reading to an adult and getting the homework diary signed.

Across the course of a week Year 6* children will be set:

- 1 spelling (to be tested fortnightly)
- 1 Mental Maths/Times Tables (to run continuously across week in preparation for testing at the end of the week)
- 1 piece of Maths
- 1 piece of weekly grammar/creative writing for English



Queen Eleanor's Church of England Junior School
An Academy in the Good Shepherd Trust
Queen Eleanor's Road, Onslow Village,
Guildford, GU2 7SD
Homework Policy



- 1 piece of Cracking Comprehension (fortnightly)
- 1 piece of weekly topic work (ILT)
- 3 or 4 sessions of reading to an adult or independently and getting the homework diary signed.

*In addition, revision tasks may be given in Year 6 in the Spring term prior to SATS.

Homework can be handed in when it is completed and does not have to be held over until the Monday due.