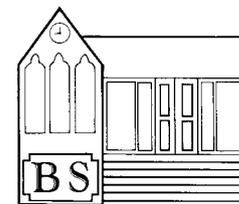


COUNTY OF NORTH YORKSHIRE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

St Peter's Brafferton CE (VA) Primary School
Helperby
York
YO61 2PA



BRAFFERTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
SCHOOL

St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School Homework Policy

At St Peter's we believe that learning is strongly influenced by the home. Parental interest and involvement is key in helping children realise their potential.

As children get older it is important that they develop the habit of regular study on their own, although they may still need parental support to do this. This will ensure a smooth transition into Year 7 and the expectations of secondary school.

Amount of homework

Current government recommendations for homework are:

Years 1 and 2	1 hour per week (reading, mental maths)
Years 3 and 4	1 ½ hours per week (reading, mental maths, spellings)
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day (regular weekly schedule)
(Years 7 and 8	45-90 minutes per day (regular weekly schedule))

Content of homework

Regular reading is vital as it impacts on children's progress and attainment across the curriculum. Recent research shows that children only make progress with their reading if they read for at least 15 minutes a day. Adult support to discuss the story or book helps children understand what they have read. Reading fluency and frequency impacts on children's writing skills. Good readers are good writers. Children need ideas for their writing. This can be supported by reading to your child regularly, especially in the early years. Children in FS borrow books daily from the school library for parents to read to them at home.

Once children begin to write regularly they are expected to learn spellings at home to support this. This can be done by 'Saying the word out loud; looking at it carefully; writing it down without looking and then checking each letter carefully'.

Children will also be expected to practise mental maths skills, and in particular to learn their tables by heart.

In addition to these tasks, pupils may be set mini projects, which may include model making, baking, learning a magic trick, research, collecting things, etc linked to other areas of the curriculum, especially in the holidays.

Year 6 pupils will be required to complete additional homework tasks in preparation for end of Key Stage tests and secondary transition.

Learning a musical instrument is hard – children easily give up. However, they need to practise regularly in order to make progress and benefit greatly from parental encouragement/support/reward to keep them motivated.

Teacher role

All homework will be set on a Friday to be handed in on a Wednesday. Class teachers will give clear instructions for a homework task so that the purpose is evident. Homework tasks will be recorded in the Homework diary. Teachers will take into account individual children's needs to ensure work is set at an appropriate level. They will also ensure that the amount of homework set is in line with government recommendations. Work will be marked promptly, where relevant, and feedback given.

Parental/carer role

Children need a quiet environment, free from distractions where they can complete work to the highest standard. Parents are expected to encourage pupils to complete their homework conscientiously and hand it in on time. Parents are expected to sign the Homework diary weekly, adding comments on homework if relevant. (see Home/School Agreement)

Pupil role

Children should take pride in their work and complete it to the highest standard, adding their name and date where appropriate. They should ensure that work is completed in the timescale.

Encountering problems

If a child mislays their homework, then he/she (if older) or the parent should ask for a replacement copy in good time. If a child or parent is unsure about the homework set or has any other issues, they should seek support from school staff.

Parents' views on homework will be sought regularly to ensure work set is balanced and achievable.

Homework club

A lunchtime homework club is available every Monday for children yr 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, running from 12.30 – 1 pm.

Homework diaries

Homework diaries are provided for all children/parents and are a means of communication between home and school. These are for use by parents and pupils to record daily reading/comments on whether activities were interesting/too easy/too hard etc and also for older children to record homework set. Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 have a diary similar to those used in our feeder secondary school to support transition.

Diaries will be monitored by class teachers and signed weekly, giving feedback to parents regarding effort, behaviour and achievement when needed.

