



Celebrating Learning Together

**Shebbear Community School
Homework Policy
May 2017**

We greatly value the help and support parents and carers can give to their children at home. We appreciate the constraints that there sometimes are on this important time and would like to explain our policy for this key area of your child's academic life.

We consider the main purposes for homework are to:

- Foster an effective partnership between home and school;
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other planned curriculum areas;
- Prepare children for Secondary transfer;
- Explore additional resources for learning;
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together;
- provide the opportunity for children to look at an activity from a different perspective;
- and encourage children to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.

Shebbear Community School's policy on Homework follows the recommendations of the Department for Education which are as follows:-

Homework should:

- ✓ be integrated with everyday work and planning;
- ✓ be set by the class teacher;
- ✓ be presented with a clear focus and time constraints;
- ✓ have a clearly understood set of expectations to be written on the half termly homework sheet;
- ✓ be marked and fed back to the children promptly;
- ✓ take into account individual children's learning needs;
- ✓ be manageable for pupils, parents/carers and teachers;
- ✓ and give plenty of opportunity for children to succeed.

The following list summarises the type of work your child will be expected to complete within the school. As with all work completed at home, it is essential that you give as much support as you can, in order that your child might achieve success:

- Teddy Class** - Reading, phonics, other literacy work and maths work.
Panda Class - Guided reading and follow-up work, topic work, science,
Koala Class - and other literacy/numeracy work.

Year 6 also receive additional homework as part of their 'Booster' revision programme during the Spring Term and the first half of the Summer Term.

Time allocation is always a difficult issue depending on the tasks set, but the DfE guidelines state that this is at the Head Teacher's discretion. In our school we aim for the following, however this can vary:

- Years 1 and 2 - 1 hour per week divided into short sessions, e.g. 10 minutes per night.
- Years 3 and 4 - 1 to 1.5 hours per week, again divided into short sessions.
- Years 5 and 6 - 30 minutes a night.

Special Needs:

Setting appropriate homework for pupils with special needs, which does not demand too much or too little of pupils or their parents/carers, needs close co-ordination between class teachers, special needs co-ordinator and parents/carers. The aims set out above are particularly important in this area.

The Role of the Parents/Carers:

Parents/carers should whenever possible:

- ✓ Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child/ren can do their homework - alone or, if appropriate, with an adult.
- ✓ Make it clear to children that they value homework and support the school.
- ✓ Encourage children and praise them when they have completed their homework.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Parents/carers and teachers, through regular dialogue, can monitor the effectiveness of the Homework Policy and the homework itself at parents' evenings and informal meetings after school, as required by both parties.

The Homework Policy will be reviewed annually. Each class in the school follows the present procedures regarding homework.

This policy was adopted by the Governing Body at their School Improvement Committee meeting on the 5th May 2017.

Signed: Brian Bowler

Chair of School Improvement Committee