RHYNIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

February 2024

At Rhynie School, we strive to work in partnership with our parents / carers to support our pupils’ learning and progress.

**Homework Consultation**

In February 2024 parents, staff and pupils were invited to take part in a consultation about homework in Rhynie School. The results from the parents and pupils were mixed. After collating comments and ideas regarding homework, they key themes were:

* Almost all parents feel homework benefits their child’s progress.
* Most parents feel that the homework provided is manageable for their child. However, finding time to complete homework can be challenging, particularly if homework is given and expected to be completed for the next day. This can be due to after school activities or the impact it may have on family time.
* Some parents would like to see more variation of homework, including some topic or research work for the older pupils.
* A small percentage of parents requested no homework.
* Class 2 felt strongly that no homework should be given.

**The Benefits of Homework**

* Allows practice and consolidation of classwork.
* Provides opportunities for individual work.
* Develops the skills of planning and organizing time.
* Encourages responsibility and ownership for learning.
* Provides information to parents (reporting).
* Provides opportunities for parental co-operation and support.
* Develops confidence to deal with frustrations, overcome difficulties and solve problems.

**How you can support this policy**

* Provide a quiet atmosphere with as few distractions as possible.
* Check that the quality and presentation is of an acceptable standard and sign/ initial the work.
* Ensure that your child puts their reading book, homework jotter/ sheet into school bag on completion of homework.
* Read to your child and encourage reading for enjoyment.
* Always talk to the teacher if you have any concerns about homework.

**Homework progression**

Homework will change as children progress through our school. Short activities of different kinds – simple games, learning spellings, phonics, number facts and reading together- provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practice crucial key skills in a supportive and secure environment. As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning. They should be able to work for regular, though short, periods of time, by themselves, with a bit less support from you.

**What will homework look like in Rhynie Primary?**

To ensure variation and to cover our key Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing skills, we will focus on a different curricular area for homework each term. We also understand and value the importance of extra-curricular activities, family time and down time for children. We feel this approach to homework will provide an important balance for our pupils and our families:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term One**  Literacy Focus  Reading | **Term Two**  Health and Wellbeing Focus  Reading |
| **Term Three**  Numeracy Focus  Reading | **Term Four**  Reading  No other homework |

Homework will be sent home on a Monday and should be returned on the Friday – this will consist of one activity with the focus outlined in the table above.

Reading homework will be given out on different days, depending on the reading group.

**Individual Needs**

Homework should **not** cause stress, upset or have a negative impact on a child or a family. If you feel like our homework policy at Rhynie Primary School does not work for your child, **please do not hesitate to get in touch with us** so we can discuss ways to support and move forward in partnership.