



Horizon Schools Federation Homework Policy September 2025

In order for our pupils to attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise the importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning and development.

Aims and Objectives

- To enable pupils to maximise progress in their academic and social development
- Provide pupils with opportunities to share their learning outside of the classroom and thereby increase motivation and improve attitudes towards learning
- Encourage skills and attitudes which help pupils to improve their educational performance
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work
- Provide a context for pupil/parent interaction
- Build and develop independent learning skills

What is Homework?

Homework should not be a chore and should always be purposeful and relevant to each individual child's learning needs.

The following list gives just a few examples of the types of homework tasks which may be set:

- Reading with a parent
- Undertaking individual research for a project/topic
- Learning number facts (times tables)
- English and Maths activities, both written and verbal
- Learning spellings
- Practicing letter formation and handwriting
- Learning 'tricky' words

When teachers set homework they will ensure that:

- It is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom
- The task is made clear to children and matched to their abilities, especially for those pupils with special educational needs
- Time scales for completion and submission are explicit
- Work is marked as promptly as possible
- Problems or difficulties encountered by children are dealt with swiftly
- Regular completion of homework of a high standard is recognised and celebrated

Types and amount of homework

Homework tasks will vary as pupil's progress through the school. For each year group core tasks will be set. Where appropriate, teachers will set additional tasks to consolidate and build upon learning in class and provide opportunities to practice and develop number and literary skills. Purple Mash is the main platform that is used to set the homework; the Purple Mash Class Blog will be updated each week and explain to the children the different tasks that have been set for the week. A class email will also be sent to the parents /carers explaining the expectations for the tasks that have been set. If children are unable to access the internet, then paper copies of activities will be provided.

Core Tasks:

- Daily reading is encouraged within all year groups and in Key Stage 2 this will move towards independent reading

- Learning weekly spellings, differentiated to meet the needs of all pupils and National Curriculum expectations for each Key Stage
- Learning number facts, appropriate to age and ability of child e.g. Number bonds, multiplication and division facts
- Topic based home learning task/ project
- Where appropriate class teachers will set additional English and Math tasks alongside these core tasks
- Children in Year 6 may be given additional homework if it is felt it will support their learning as they approach the SATs

The Role of Parents

It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance.

It is also important for parents to recognise that it is the child's responsibility to complete the work.

Our Federation recognises the value of time spent as a family and therefore would like parents to encourage children to share their experiences outside of school with their teachers.

If parents have any concerns regarding homework, they should contact the class teacher in the first instance.

Pupils with special educational needs

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to agree and then monitor the Federation homework policy. The Governing Body may, at any time, request from the Executive Headteacher a report on the way homework is organised across the Federation.