



## **Newtown Linford Primary School Homework Policy**

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Newtown Linford Primary School we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

### Why give homework?

- It can inform parents about work going on in class;
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It takes advantage of the home environment, resources and the chance for one to one adult time;
- It can be a great source for gathering topic information to share with all the children;
- It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables, doubling facts, addition sums, spellings, handwriting and other key facts;
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

### Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, Newtown Linford Primary School is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice.

We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves. However, we expect all children to complete homework. Sanctions are given in each of our classes as appropriate to the child's age. These are made clear to parents and children at the beginning of each academic year either via Home School Books, Homework Books or a separate sheet/booklet sent out.

### Our routines and expectations

Each class has separate routines linked to both the age and ability of children within them. These are made clear to parents and children either via Home School Books, Homework Books or a separate sheet/booklet sent out.

During the year if routines change due to identified needs of learning, these are made clear to parents and children either via Home School Books, Homework Books or a separate sheet/booklet sent out.

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil (or blue/black pen if they have a pen license).

As far as possible, homework will be related to class topics. This is important as it helps parents to know more about what is going on in class and to support enthusiasm for learning. Parents might, for example, find themselves supporting research of Egyptian Gods, finding out about grandparents' experience of school or measuring objects around the home. This also means that each child can pursue a set task at their own level of ability.

If you take holiday during term-time, something we actively discourage and is unauthorised, parents may not request work from the teacher.

### What to do if you have concerns

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently please talk with your child's teacher in the first instance.

If you still have concerns, please talk with Mrs Chris Chorlton, the Headteacher.