

Policy Statement and Rationale:

It is recognised that learning at home is an essential part of good education (source; OFSTED). Regular homework is vital, since it gives pupils opportunity to practice at home the skills and concepts required for learning. Homework helps pupils work towards improving important life skills. It helps children to become confident and independent, gaining life long skills for life long learning.

Curricular Aims

The focus of homework in Laycock Primary School is on the important skills of English, to include writing, spelling and reading with parents / carers, and Maths, to include the practice and acquisition of key number bonds and multiplication tables. Home learning is expected to be appropriate for the age group and abilities of the pupils. It is expected to extend school experiences as well as to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding.

Time Allocation

At Laycock Primary School we ask that Reception and Key Stage 1 children undertake 10 – 15 minutes per weekday evening on reading, spellings and other phonic based activities and simple number game activities.

In other year groups the nightly time allocation is up to 30 minutes on reading, spelling and maths key skills.

A whole school talk activity is also given to all children every Thursday for discussion as a family and is followed up in class every Friday morning.

Every child is provided with:

- A reading book matched to their reading age and interests which takes into account their comprehension as well as their ability to decode words:
- Weekly spellings based upon a phonic approach and word families, a copy of which can be found on the school website:
- A maths card with key facts they must know by heart and practice regularly.

Where relevant teachers will provide useful, age appropriate and safe website links to support homework tasks and for research purposes. The school's Virtual Learning Environment (accessible via the school website) is a very useful tool for children to use to practice and consolidate spellings and number work concepts. All Reception and KS1 children have access to "Education City", all KS 2 pupils to "Mathletics" and "My Maths", all paid for by school and with no cost to parents.

Laycock Primary School Homework Policy February 2015

At Laycock Primary School we recognise that not every family has internet access, nor do they manage to do 15 – 30 minutes activity with their child every night. Given the importance of homework on a pupil's academic success we do not wish this to hinder a child's life chances and so we staff a morning break "Learning Club" so that these children are given the same life chances as their peers. Any pupil may attend this club, but pupils will be sent to this club should their homework not be complete/recorded OR if their progress is slowing and extra practice is required.

Assessment

Homework is regularly assessed by the class teacher or by the pupils sharing their work in discussion. Pupils have reading records which parents / carers are asked to contribute to and comment upon.

This policy will be reviewed in line with the current School Development Plan. Comments from staff and governors will be taken into account together with any changes to policy agreed at a staff meeting and approved by the governing body.

Between them the Governors, Head teacher and teaching staff will monitor the implementation of the policy.

Reviewed by teaching staff: February 2015

Approved by the Governing Body:

Signed.....Chair.
Date.....

To be reviewed: January 2017