GIGGLESWICK
SCHOOL

Prep School Homework Policy

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1 INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE

We appreciate that children at Giggleswick Preparatory School have a long day and we value the importance of rest and leisure after school. However, we still believe that the completion of regular homework is an important element of children's schooling, to consolidate and further their learning. This will also be appropriate to the age and ability of the child.

We would expect all our pupils (Reception to Year 6) to practice their weekly spellings, multiplication tables and be heard read on a regular basis.

Pupils in Year 3-6 may also undertake some additional tasks primarily in English and Maths, but also in a range of their curriculum subjects if necessary. All pupils in Years 5-6 are encouraged to complete a termly independent research project that is presented to their class. This covers a range of different topics (e.g. the environment, music, nature, farming etc) and may be presented in various formats which pupils can choose.

Some of the homework will relate to pupils' personal targets and require practice over a short (but regular) period of time and learning 'by heart'.

2 HOMEWORK/PREP : TO BE COMPLETED IN SCHOOL

For pupils in KS2, a Prep session is provided on a Friday, to allow time for Independent Research Projects and additional SPAG Prep. Form periods are also points in the day for homework to be completed or for the completion of work set in class.

For pupils in Years 1 and 2, additional time may be given during the day to complete tasks, and set to be completed at home due to the option of shorter days, will be optional. Support will be given to pupils and the tasks will reflect the home setting.

Pupils in younger years may be asked to discuss a topic/learning with parents/carers, or even undertake a small investigation or research task as appropriate.

Other homework activities may include:

- completing class work
- extra skills' practice
- research for a class/individual topic (e.g. in Humanities or Science) or Form Time/Enrichment
- Half-termly independent research task (Years 5 and 6)
- reading the borrowed library/reading scheme book
- a reading activity relating to their guided reading book
- learning song words/lines of a script for a performance etc
- accessing computer tasks e.g. Active Learn/Teams
- In Y5&6, learning a list of words in a French/Spanish

Microsoft Teams will be used to set Prep work if applicable and to allow for online learning links to be utilised. This also allows for further parental involvement in the tasks and allows parents to continue the learning when they feel appropriate at home.

Children in Reception to Year 6 will use Microsoft Teams, set up for each curriculum area in which most activities can be listed. Assignments may be returned online if this is required – this is likely to only occur for KS2 pupils.

Subject staff will mark homework set.

3 HOMEWORK : TO BE COMPLETED A HOME

3.1 Reading

- Your child has a fiction book from the classroom/library and is expected to read it regularly and change it with their form teacher, or as they get older, by themselves. They may also choose a non-fiction book if this interest them.
- A brief record of when and how your child has read should be recorded in their Home-School Book. Targets/guidance may be recorded to support parents. (Reception-Year 2, or as necessary for older years)

3.2 Spelling/Phonics

- Your child has phonic graphemes/common exception words/high frequency words that they need to consolidate. These will be shared via the Home School Contact Book and Teams, along with support videos. (Rec/Year 1)
- Your child has a list of words to which he/she has been introduced in our spelling lessons (Year 1-6)
- Your child should learn these words using the **L**ook **S**ay **C**over **W**rite **C**heck (LaSaCaWaC) approach. (Year 1-6)
- When learning these words, your child is encouraged to practise a few times during the week, rather than the whole list once a week. (Year 1-6)
- Spellings are recorded in the Home School Contact Book, and children are expected to practise these at home on paper. (Year 1-6, R when appropriate)

3.3 Numeracy

- Your child has a target relating to number facts to which have been assessed at the beginning of each half-term (Reception to Year 6).
- From Year 2, pupils will be given access to Times Tables Rockstars and Numbots from Reception to Year 1, (https://ttrockstars.com/login) and staff will set multiplication and division facts that pupils can practice online. Regular practice at the start of Maths lessons and in Prep continue to reinforce and embed these facts.

As most 'homework' set will be completed in class (prep), possible anxiety surrounding not fully understanding or family logistics should be reduced. We do not want pupils feeling under adverse pressure to complete the tasks set for home (reading/spelling) and so parents and pupils should speak to their child's form tutor if additional support/guidance is required.

This policy will be reviewed annually and in accordance with the GPS Development Plan and Giggleswick School Strategic Plan.