

Termoncanice P.S.

# HOMEWORK POLICY



Date ratified by Board of Governors: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Next Policy Review Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Learning Together – Caring Together*

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### **Purpose:**

- To encourage pupils to develop the skills and confidence needed to complete tasks with increasing levels of independence, self-discipline and perseverance, thus raising standards of achievement
- To consolidate and reinforce, and/or extend school-based learning, especially in literacy and numeracy
- To promote a more effective partnership between school and parents
- To give parents a greater understanding of their child's attainment and foster greater participation in their learning

### **Responsibilities**

#### **School Management should**

- Ensure that homework is appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- Ensure via coordinators that homework tasks are built into curriculum planning, i.e. linked to classroom activity
- Monitor, evaluate and review homework practice regularly

#### **Teachers:**

- Are responsible for the setting and marking of homework on a regular basis in accordance with guidelines set out in this policy
- Should praise and reward children for effort given to homework

#### **Parents should**

- Show the value they place upon homework by providing a reasonably peaceful suitable place in which their pupils can do their homework independently
- Ensure that their child has given satisfactory effort to homework tasks, including presentation
- Sign their child's work nightly as a further way of demonstrating their interest in their child's learning
- Encourage and praise children when work has been completed
- Let the school know if there is a problem with homework so that we can all achieve what is best for the child

#### **Pupils should**

- Ensure that they know all homework details before leaving school and that they have necessary books etc. to complete that night's task
- Show their commitment to their own learning by spending the allocated time doing the tasks set *to the best of their ability* and bringing homework to school each day
- Explain to parents or teachers any difficulties they may be having with their homework

### **Range & Frequency of Activities**

- Many different activities may be set as homework, including: reading, mathematics work, locating information, preparing a talk, practice tests etc. (This is neither an exhaustive nor exclusive list and work will depend upon current classroom activities.)
- Homework will only be set **Monday to Thursday** in all year groups.

Pr.7	30-40 mins <b>Written work:</b> pupils will be set two Numeracy and two Literacy homeworks each week. Pupils have to Friday each week to hand in homeworks. This is to improve personal skills, time management, decision making and self organisation. <b>Spelling:</b> activity sheet for each week, activities allocated on a nightly basis. <b>Accelerated Reading</b> Children to be encouraged to read independently for 30 minutes plus each night
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*Please note: The time allocations above are inclusive of all elements of homework, i.e. written work, reading & spelling. These are recommended times only and some children may complete homework well within the given time. Time is not as much an issue as the learning that is taking place, but if excessive time is being taken, please stop your child at an appropriate stage, sign their book stating how long your child has been at their work.*

- *If your child is not coping with the set homework, it is very important that you inform the class teacher so the reason can be ascertained. This home/school partnership will help your child's progress.*

## **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

- The Principal will monitor the standard of completed homework tasks weekly by visiting classrooms and discussing the work done by the pupils.
- The Principal will carry out an evaluation of the effectiveness of the homework policy by checking a sample of homework tasks on a half termly basis.
- The curriculum team will review the policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

## **For Parents: Practical Ways to Help**

Children need to be taught the strategies needed to tackle their homework. Points to consider are:

- Provide a quiet environment where your child can work without distraction.
- Try to develop a regular homework routine, e.g. try to stick to the same time each day.
- Build your child's self-esteem by praising the effort given to homework rather than their attainment. It is very important that your child feels positive about herself because of how she has approached her work, rather than feeling that praise will only come from near perfect accuracy.
- If your child becomes distressed in any way, it is time for a break. No learning will take place under such stress. Only come back to the work if your child is feeling more positive.
- If homework is causing stress within the family on a regular basis, please contact your child's teacher.
- Provide all basic equipment for homework and ensure the child knows where to locate everything needed, i.e. pens, pencils, ruler, dictionary etc.
- When homework has been completed, sign your child's work and ask that their schoolbag is prepared for the next day.