

High Ham Homework Policy (Updated for Sept 2021)

Our ethos: Discovering, Learning, Believing Together.

We believe: Children learn best when they can reinforce the skills they learn at school in a range of contexts, over a period of time and independently. Homework activities are given to support and extend their learning.

Parent/Carer Feedback: On our annual survey in 2020, there were some suggestions to update this policy which we have taken into consideration. Clearly some parents value homework being set, and some would prefer it not to be set. Therefore, we have a compromise of setting work for all ages but only making it compulsory for the two oldest classes in the school (years five and six). We have updated the reading records to be clearer about homework expectations and have included swimming as a homework task.

Swimming: In response to parents feedback we are encouraging children to have swimming lessons out of school. We will run KS2 water sports activities each year as well as catch up swimming programmes for those in years 5 and 6 who cannot swim 25m.

Setting and Collecting Homework: Homework tasks will be set each Monday by class teachers and will be due in the following week. Work will be marked, and records kept. Children will receive Do-Jo points for completing tasks. Homework is not compulsory (apart from in years five and six) and therefore will not be requested, if the parent has written a note in the child's planner to say that they are not completing the homework activity for that week. As a parent, it is for you to decide what you would like your child to do.

Reading: All classes will be given reading books to share. Sharing a reading book will significantly enhance the progress pupils make with their reading. Our reading results consistently show that the children who read the most at home make the greater progress. Ideally please aim to hear your child each day and then if you miss a few days it won't matter – we would recommend at least four reads a week.

Online Work: Years 2-6 will have TTRockStars (timetables tables testing) as well as a range of activities set on Google Classroom.

Project Work: This will be set by class teachers as and when appropriate to the current classwork and topics being covered. Generally, the principles of topic homework are that the children are given the opportunity to present their work in any format they like thus encouraging them to develop their own personal skills and interest. For example, they may choose to make a model or paint a picture.

Range of Homework Tasks: These will reinforce learning, develop pupil's interest in schoolwork as well as offer opportunities for independent learning. Some certificates will be given out and Do-Jo points awarded. Pupils will also be provided with logins for a range of computer/tablet apps which they might find interesting and beneficial.

Additional Tasks: If you would like your child to have additional work other than what is set, please mention it at parents' evening or write a note in the pupil diary and the class teacher will follow up with you.

Technical Support: If you need help, please just ask.