# Homework Policy

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Publication date: 1st September 2025
Review date: 31st August 2028
Reviewed and ratified by:

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## Statement of intent

**Micklands Primary School** is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which children are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling primary school education.

At **Micklands**, we believe that homework plays an important part in a child's education.

The benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that children have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to making homework well-balanced across the school.

This Homework Policy was developed in consultation with staff members, parents, pupils and with the full agreement of the governing body.

## Aims

Micklands Primary School's Homework Policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework.
- Ensure that parents have clarity on what their child is expected to do.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Support pupils' learning experiences via preparation, revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning and to keep them informed about the work their child is covering.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experiences by extending it beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practice and deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

## 1. Responsibilities

1.1. The role of the headteacher and governing body:

- Frequently check compliance of the policy.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the policy every year.
- Review the policy every two years and make appropriate updates as required.
- Discuss with staff how far the Policy is being implemented.
- Meet with parents as appropriate.
- Support parents with information about homework.
- Inform new parents about the Homework Policy.

1.2. The role of the teacher:

- Plan and set up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Provide an explanation of homework tasks and ensure all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensure all homework given is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Set homework that is appropriate to the child's ability.
- Monitor homework regularly and make sure pupils are completing it.
- Mark homework and give feedback to pupils.
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Be available for discussion if necessary to parents and pupils about homework.
- Set homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensure homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.
- Reward quality work and praise children who regularly complete homework.

1.3. The role of parents/carers:

- Support their child in completing homework
- Become involved in their child's homework and encourage their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Encourage their child to complete homework to a high standard and on time.
- Provide suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Praise their child and celebrate achievements with regard to their homework.
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operate with the school to find a solution.
- Keep the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and homework.
- Encourage your child to discuss homework with you, including feedback from teachers.

1.4. The role of pupils:

- Take responsibility for their own learning and submit completed work in a timely manner.
- Have a positive approach towards homework.
- Put the same effort into homework as would be expected of class work.
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seek clarification if required.
- Ensure that they have everything they need to complete homework and return to school all books/stationery needed to complete their homework.
- Take pride in the presentation and content of their homework and perform to a high personal standard.

## 2. Homework Tasks – Current practice

2.1. Teachers will explain the organisation of homework to parents at the start of Term 1.

2.2. Teachers will inform parents on a termly basis about the main topics and units of work being covered.

2.3. All pupils will have homework books in which they complete their homework or be issued with a homework folder to keep their homework neat and organised.

2.4. Every pupil will receive weekly homework that is given out on a Friday and is expected to be returned the following Wednesday morning.

2.5. Homework will be marked every week and returned to the child in the homework folder/book.

2.6. Parents/carers are encouraged to discuss any errors with their child. If they have any queries, they should make an appointment to see their child's class teacher. Feedback from parents about their child's homework is also welcomed by the school.

2.7. At Micklands, pupils will be given weekly activities taking a maximum of 1 hour – 1 hour 50 minutes.

2.8. The amount of homework will increase as the child progresses through school. Teachers may occasionally set extra homework for the whole class if they feel it would be beneficial.

2.9. Homework will not be set during school holidays, although daily reading will be strongly encouraged during these times. It may be appropriate for additional revision activities to be given to Year 6 pupils during holidays. This decision will lie with the class teacher.

The table below shows expected homework. Daily reading is encouraged and tasks may be set in addition to the following activities:

| Year Group | Homework | Maximum Time | Total/week |
|---|---|---|---|
| R | • Reading book and/or phonics every night<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes | 1 hour |
| 1 | • Reading book and/or phonics every night<br>• Spelling<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes<br>10 minutes | 1 hour 10 minutes |
| 2 | • Reading book and/or phonics every night<br>• Spelling<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes<br>10 minutes | 1 hour 10 minutes |
| 3 | • Reading book every night<br>• Spelling<br>• English<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes<br>10 minutes<br>10 minutes | 1 hour 20 minutes |
| 4 | • Reading book every night<br>• Spelling<br>• English<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes<br>15 minutes<br>15 minutes | 1 hour 30 minutes |
| 5 | • Reading book every night<br>• Spelling<br>• English<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes<br>20 minutes<br>20 minutes | 1 hour 40 minutes |
| 6 | • Reading book every night<br>• Spelling<br>• English<br>• Maths | 10 minutes/night<br>10 minutes<br>25 minutes<br>25 minutes | 1 hour 50 minutes |

In addition to the above weekly activities, project work/cross curricular learning may be given to develop skills in relation to year group topics.

## 3. Absences

3.1. If the child is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods as pupils should not be well enough to undertake work. In some cases, there may be exceptions to this rule and the school has the right to decide whether this is acceptable or not.

3.2. If the child is absent for a long period of time, the teacher and the parent of the child will agree on what should be done and how much help should be given to the child.

## 4. Pupils who fail to complete homework

4.1. All pupils are expected to complete homework on time. Teachers will keep records of pupils completing homework which will be regularly checked. If pupils fail to complete homework, it is expected that they will complete the work during playtimes.

## 5. Marking homework

5.1. Homework may be marked in a variety of ways according to the school's marking policy. The work will be ticked to show that it has been marked. Sometimes, the work is marked in detail and comments are given on future progress. Occasionally, the work may be marked orally with the child or class. Teachers will not mark homework that is handed in late.

## 6. Pupils with SEND

6.1. The school recognises that pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may require that specific tasks be set to suit their needs.

6.2. While pupils with SEND may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework received from other pupils, it is important that they also do as much in common with other pupils.

6.3. A balanced amount of the right type of homework will be set for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the parents and SEND co-ordinator.

## 7. Equal Opportunities

7.1. At Micklands, governors and staff members are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background. All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

## 8. Policy review

8.1. This policy is reviewed every two years by the headteacher.

8.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is 31st August 2028.