

Home and Academy working together

Reading is an important part of homework for key stage two children and is expected to make up part of the weekly time designated to homework.

As children continue to be set more formal tasks, it is difficult to judge the time homework will take each individual. Teachers will endeavour to set homework which is pitched carefully at the requirements of their class and individuals.

We are happy for your child to stop after the designated time, which in Key Stage Two should be approximately 30 minutes (with the exception of the creativity task), even if the activity has not been completed. However, if you or your child wish to continue beyond the time guidelines, in order to complete an activity, you may do so. If you feel your child is regularly completing work outside the time, it would be helpful to note this in your child's homework book or speak to the class teacher. Parents will be required to sign their child's homework book each week.

It is essential that reading and homework books are brought between home and academy regularly in order to help form the desirably habits required later on in academy life. Children should be beginning to take responsibility for this themselves. It is important that homework is completed on time, as it feeds into tasks and activities in class. Children, who do not hand homework in on time on a regular basis, will be asked to complete the activity during break times. You will be contacted if this becomes a regular occurrence for your child.

There will be times when no homework is set such as the beginning and ending of term or if the children have a busy few weeks with other activities taking place, the class teacher should advise you of this.

This information provided in this leaflet is unable to take into account the needs of each individual. If you wish to discuss the needs of your child further please contact the class teacher or see the website for the homework policy.

More information can be found on the governments site for parents:

www.parentcentre.gov.uk

Mersey Primary Academy



Homework

Tigers, Frogs, Meerkats & Sharks

Homework is an important part of academy life. This leaflet is intended to give you an overview of the way homework is organised on Key Stage Two, as well as offering some general guidance on how you can support your child at home.

Homework at Mersey Primary Academy

At Mersey Primary it is our aim to provide regular home-work, which prepares a child for an activity; reinforces work in class or gives the opportunity to develop essential skills through more open ended tasks. Homework is set to develop positive attitudes towards supported and independent work at home; to support current teaching and learning and help to prepare a child for the next phase of their education. Most importantly it gives parents the opportunity to see what their child is currently studying in academy and become involved in this.

We know that families have busy lives. In line with DFES guidelines, our aim is that homework should be relevant to the child's current learning and needs, but at the same time not be too onerous.

Overview of homework across Key Stage Two

Year group	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Homework	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths
	Spag activity	Spag activity	Spag activity	Spag activity
	Big Write/TALK	Big Write/TALK	Big Write/TALK	Big Write/TALK
Support required	Some adult support	Some adult support	Some adult support	Minimal adult support

A positive approach

- Encourage your child to listen carefully to the tasks set and clarify with the class teacher if they are unsure
- Find a reasonably quiet space for your child to work in at home
- Encourage them to complete their homework task straight away
- Develop a routine that allows homework to be completed at a similar time each day
- Encourage your child to become increasingly aware of time when completing homework. It is useful to record this on finished pieces
- Develop their organisational skills by making it a their responsibility to have equipment ready and things packed in their red reading bags.

Overview of Homework expectations

(N.B Spag stands for spelling, punctuation and grammar, the children could have an activity based on any of these aspects)

Helping your child- General guide

- * Regular reading is an important part of homework in Key Stage 2. This may be done as part of a set homework activity, or in addition to a task that has another focus.
- * Continue to hear your child read regularly once they enter the Key Stage 2, discussing the text they have read in detail. Encourage independent reading in addition to this, particularly as your child becomes more fluent. Independent reading should last approx. 15/20 minutes.
- * Working with your child is important but so is developing independence! In years 3, 4 and 5 your child will still require support with their home-work but should be encouraged to work on their own at times.
- * In year 6, your child may still need some support with specific pieces of homework, but should be working with increasing independence. A 'Reading journal' is given to the children to help them organise their approach to homework in preparation for moving on.
- * Children's presentation skills are always developing, encourage your child to take pride in the presentation of their homework.

Year group	Three	Four	Five	Six
Reading (minimum)	3 times per week			
Spelling	Review words daily	Review words daily	Review words daily	Review words
Punctuation	Punctuation or grammar activity	Punctuation or grammar activity	Punctuation or grammar activity	Daily
Grammar				Punctuation or grammar activity
Maths	Once per week	Once per week	Once per week	1-2 times per week
Big Write (TALK)	Once per week	Once per week	Once per week	Once per week