

Homework Policy (Junior School)

Homework is any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. It is not explicitly only work done at home, as homework may be undertaken within school, during the After School provision in Years 3 to 6.

The purpose of homework is:

- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline to work on their own.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding.
- To extend individual learning, for example through additional reading.
- To enable pupils to devote time to particular demands, such as research. .
- To support the home/school relationship.

Timetables

The homework programme forms a part of the overall curriculum and is based on the academic timetable. It is therefore expected that all pupils complete all homework that is set.

The nature of the homework will naturally vary between subjects and year groups. However, over the course of a year, it is intended that a wide range of homework tasks will be set for pupils to complete:

Written tasks related to English and mathematics;
Assignments linked to topic-based learning;
Preparation for oral presentations;
Pre-reading to support upcoming lessons;
Research or fact-finding tasks for a specific project;
Weekly independent skills practice, including reading, handwriting, class spellings, times tables fluency through *Times table Rockstars (TTRS)*, and *Mathletics*.

The amount of time dedicated to homework is carefully matched to the age and stage of the pupil. Teachers assign homework with an expectation that it will typically be completed within two evenings, unless alternative instructions are provided. This approach allows flexibility for pupils to engage in co-curricular activities and other personal commitments. The weekly homework expectations are outlined below.

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| Year 1 | One homework task (approximately 10–15 minutes)
Weekly independent skills practice including phonics |
| Year 2 | Daily reading
One homework task (approximately 10–15 minutes)
Weekly independent skills practice including phonics |



Year 3	Daily reading (15 minutes) Two homework tasks (approximately 20 minutes each) Weekly independent skills practice
Year 4	Daily reading (20 minutes) Two homework tasks (approximately 25 minutes each) Weekly independent skills practice
Year 5	Daily reading (20 minutes) Three homework tasks (approximately 25 minutes each) Weekly independent skills practice
Year 6	Daily reading (20 minutes) Three homework tasks (approximately 30 minutes each) Weekly independent skills practice

If, for any reason, a pupil is unable to complete their homework, a written note or email from a parent or carer should be sent to the class teacher. If the difficulty arises from a lack of understanding, the pupil is expected to seek support from the teacher and complete the task once appropriate guidance has been provided. In the event of absence, pupils may be expected to catch up on missed homework; however, this will be at the teacher's discretion.

Home Reading

Parents can play a valuable role in supporting reading at every stage, from children who are just beginning to read in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to those reading more fluently further up the school. Pupils may bring home a wide selection of texts, including storybooks, non-fiction titles, poetry, and plays.

Silcoates currently subscribes to *Little Wandle* to support phonics and early reading in EYFS and Key Stage 1, and to *Accelerated Reader*, which enables pupils to complete online quizzes to assess their comprehension after finishing a book.

We encourage all pupils to engage in daily reading. Pupils in Years 1 to 4 are expected to record the pages they have read in their reading record books. In Years 5 and 6, pupils should maintain their *Accelerated Reader* records, demonstrating their commitment to reading through regular completion of comprehension quizzes. Daily reading at home is an essential part of learning and is strongly emphasised across all year groups.

Every effort is made to ensure that our reading materials are of high quality, representative of our diverse society, and appropriate for the age and stage of each child. Pupils are reminded to take care of school books and to return them in good condition



Responsibilities

Class & Subject Teachers

Teachers are responsible for setting appropriate homework in a clear and accessible manner. Homework should be handed out and/ or uploaded to Firefly for pupils in Years 3 to 6, or communicated to parents via a written note for pupils in Years 1 and 2.

Marking homework is an integral part of ongoing assessment. Teachers will aim to review and return homework promptly, ensuring that feedback is relevant and that the task remains fresh in the pupil's mind.

Pupils

Pupils are responsible for ensuring that all homework is completed and submitted by the given deadlines. Any difficulties with homework should be addressed before the due date. Where necessary, pupils are encouraged to seek support from the relevant teacher.

Parents

Parents are encouraged to support their child with homework, while recognising that their level of involvement will naturally decrease as their child becomes more independent. Wherever possible, parents should provide a quiet and suitable environment for study or encourage the use of after-school facilities.

Parents should also support pupils in meeting deadlines and, if they have concerns regarding the quantity or difficulty of homework being set, they are advised to contact the class teacher, who will review and address the matter accordingly

The School is fully committed to ensuring that the application of this policy is non-discriminatory in line with the UK Equality Act (2010). Further details are available in the School's Equal Opportunity Policy document.

Reviewed by:	Mrs Mrs Moss – Head of Junior School Mr Hodson – Assistant Head of Junior School (Teaching and Learning)		
Date of last review:	June 2026	Date of next review:	June 2027



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