

Mickle Trafford Village School

Homework Policy

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At MTVS, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Why give homework?

- ✓ It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning
- ✓ It encourages responsibility for learning and independent learning
- ✓ It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as reading and times tables
- ✓ It takes advantage of the home environment and resources
- ✓ It can be a great source for gathering curriculum information
- ✓ It can inform parents about work going on in class and give opportunity for one to one adult time
- ✓ It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, MTVS is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and productive for all concerned and that if it becomes a source of conflict different ways to support your child can be discussed.

Our expectations

We encourage children to:

- ✓ Make their parents aware of any homework given by the teacher.
- ✓ Ask for help if it is needed.
- ✓ Complete homework to the best of their ability and maintain the same standards of presentation expected in the classroom.

- ✓ Ensure that homework is handed in on time if a deadline is given by the teacher.

We encourage parents to:

- ✓ Show a positive interest in homework; talk and ask questions
- ✓ Help and support, but encourage independent thinking
- ✓ Ensure children have the time and space to complete homework
- ✓ Praise children for their efforts.
- ✓ Check termly newsletters and emails for correspondence regarding learning and homework.
- ✓ Ensure children are safe when working online at home.

Teachers will:

- ✓ Set homework in books, via Google Classroom, Tapestry for EYFS, MyMaths or other programmes used by the school.
- ✓ Explain the homework task and the learning purpose clearly.
- ✓ Set work at the appropriate level.
- ✓ Set deadlines if appropriate
- ✓ Set homework on a Friday to be submitted by Wednesday of the following week unless it is an extended piece of work
- ✓ Only set voluntary homework during school holidays
- ✓ When appropriate involve children in the planning of homework based on class learning.

Learning for life

These areas of learning are essential and should be encouraged and enjoyed at home:

- **Talking**-time for talking will encourage interest in learning, the conversations are endless!
- **Reading**-this may be sharing a book, reading aloud or listening to a story.
- **Spelling**-from Year 1, most children have spellings to learn on a weekly basis and they are tested on a set day.
- **Writing**-children can enjoy practising writing at home. For example they could practise writing their name or days of the

week; they could practise their letter formation and handwriting or write for a variety of reasons including stories, lists and cards.

- **Times tables**-this is the most important number skill that children can learn and practise at home. Times tables are often tested in school. Once children know their times tables they will be able to understand many other mathematical concepts and calculations. Most children have access to Times Table Rockstars to challenge their learning.
- **Number work**-this may be counting, learning addition facts, subtraction facts, shapes, measures and playing games involving dice, cards and counters.
- **Telling the time**-children learn to tell the time with greater confidence when it is a practical everyday task within their own daily routine.
- **Research**- children may be asked to find out about areas of the curriculum that they are currently enjoying studying.
- **Interactive learning**-children can access a range of interactive learning. There is a link to some sites School Websites.

Through a positive homework policy we aim to encourage a successful partnership between school, parents and pupils, and support learning so that each child achieves success.

All pupils are expected to read daily at home in addition to their set homework activities. Evidence of reading and comments should be recorded in homework diaries.

In conclusion, we aim to provide all children, regardless of gender, ethnicity or home background, homework that is differentiated where applicable, to allow each pupil to achieve.