



Believe. Achieve. Succeed Together.

Iver Village Junior School

Home Learning Policy

Article 29: to develop children's talents and abilities to the full

Review Date	Reviewed by	Changes
November 2020	SLT	Changed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• policy name to home learning• the type of homework given to half term tasks rather than weekly• removed homework club
November 2022		

Headteacher: Jill Digweed

Deputy Head: Paul Clifford

Our Aims:

- To use homework as a tool to help to continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for the individual pupil.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

Introduction

'Homework' is taken to include any work activities that reinforce learning which pupils are asked to do out of school, either on their own or with their parents/carers.

Rationale for Homework

Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

Types of Homework

As stated above, we appreciate that some weekends and evenings are busier than others due to out-of-school clubs. Therefore, we have given pupils the flexibility to complete home learning tasks in their own time. Instead of setting homework weekly, we have decided to set it over a half term.

At the start of each half term, children take home spelling lists for each week of the half term and a homework grid containing 15 home learning tasks. It is then their choice which tasks they wish to complete during the half term. There are 5 tasks for Maths and English and 5 creative tasks to choose from. Upper School children are expected to complete 10 tasks while Lower School are expected to complete 6. Homework books are then returned to school in the last week of half term for monitoring and assessment.

In addition, reading should also be undertaken daily. Children should allow for 5-10 minutes a day and parents should record this in their reading record.

Recommended Time Allocation

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school.

The following are government recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities:

Years 3 and 4 - 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6 - 30 minutes per day

This includes daily reading, spelling and times table practise.

The Role of Parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the Headteacher.

Role of the Class Teacher

To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.

To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.

To set homework that takes equal opportunities into account.

To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the taught curriculum.

To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.

To mark homework and give feedback to pupils.

Role of the Headteacher and Governing Body

To check compliance of the Policy.

To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.

To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

Inform new parents to the school so that they are aware of the home/school agreement and what it entails.