



Burghfield Common Federation

Mrs Bland's Infant and Nursery School

and

Garland Junior School

Homework Policy

Published on Federation website	Yes
Statutory?	No
Author	Executive Headteacher
Approved by	SLT
Date approved	September 2026
Date of next review	September 2027

Introduction

Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. At Burghfield Common Federation, we see homework as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents/carers.

One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning. Homework an important and positive element in raising a child's level of achievement, however, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in children's growth and development. Whilst homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in activities and various out-of-school clubs/other organisations that play an important part in their lives.

We understand children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside of school.

Because of this, we appreciate there may be occasions where your child is unable to complete a task because of time constraints. If this occurs, we will ask that your child's class teacher is informed to explain this.

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
- To promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- To enable some aspects of the curriculum to be further explored independently
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

Guiding Principles

Teachers will:

- inform parents of the class homework policy procedures and expectations at the start of each year
- ensure that homework is relevant to the child's educational needs and not used as a form of sanction
- support children's learning e.g. Spelling Shed, Doodle Maths
- clearly explain homework with sufficient written instructions and when skill subjects are involved - it should be revision of work that is understood by the children
- ensure children's self-discipline and independent learning skills are enhanced in an environment other than school
- design the task such that it requires an appropriate time commitment and does not impact unreasonably on the development of personal and social skills or "family time"
- contact parents if homework expectations are not being met by their child
- check and mark homework routinely.

We also ask that parents inform the class teacher at the earliest opportunity if any difficulties are encountered in completing set tasks.

Stress Free Homework at Home

The following recommendations are included as parental information:

- Please provide your child with a quiet time and place to do homework - switch off the TV!
- Siblings need to be asked to respect that those engaged in homework should not be disturbed
- Do show a genuine interest in your child's homework and become involved, but refrain from doing it for them
- Establish a homework routine and be aware of homework procedures
- Ensure that your child has the tools necessary to complete the homework e.g. pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, glue, scissors and paper
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher, especially if difficulties are experienced.

NOTE: Supervised access to the internet may assist children engaged in research tasks but should not be considered essential.

Types of Homework for Different Ages

All Children

Foundation Stage (Reception)

- Sharing a book for pleasure with an adult
- Reading school reading book daily with an adult
- Common exception words will be sent home at the beginning of each term for the children to practice (A certificate will be awarded at the end of each term for children who have learnt them)

Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2)

- Reading school reading book daily with an adult
- Common exception words will be sent home at the beginning of each term for the children to practice (A certificate will be awarded at the end of each term for children who have learnt them)
- Spelling Shed (EdShed) spellings assigned weekly (Y2)
- Numbots
- The commencement of learning multiplication tables in Year Two.

Key Stage Two (Years 3-6)

- Reading school reading book daily
- Common exception words will be sent home at the beginning of each term for the children to practice (A certificate will be awarded at the end of each term for children who have learnt them)
- Spelling Shed (EdShed) spellings assigned weekly
- Doodle Maths
- Time tables Rock Stars (Y3/Y4)
- Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) tasks(Y5/6).

Specifically in Year 6 there will be revision homework sent home for SATs.

Rewards and Consequences

Where children have spent considerable time and effort on their homework, the Federation's reward system is utilised through the awarding of team points/raffle tickets/stickers as appropriate.

Across both schools, we have a reading incentive to encourage our pupils to develop a love of reading, with the winners being able to select a book of their choice to keep.

If homework is not complete, children may be asked to spend part of a breaktime or lunchtime to catch up on this work.

We do recognise that there may be rare occasions where it is not possible for children to complete a task due to out of school commitments. On such occasions, we ask that a parent/carer contacts the class teacher to inform them, thus preventing an unnecessary consequence for the child.