

BRYN COCH PRIMARY SCHOOL MOLD



HOMEWORK POLICY

Policy adopted by Governing Body on: _

Chair of Governors (print name): _____

Signature: _____

Review date: Spring term 2023



BRYN COCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

**School Motto: “Teamwork is togetherness
Togetherness is teamwork.”**

MISSION

To achieve the highest possible standards by creating a happy, nurturing environment whilst maintaining the “warmth” that is at the heart of Bryn Coch

1. Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day, which contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children’s learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

2. 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 Bryn Coch 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.

3. Aims and Objectives

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 a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning.
- To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth.
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school.
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons.
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

4. Types of Homework

Here at Bryn Coch we set a variety of homework activities.

In both Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 half-termly Family Homework is set during the breaks between the two terms. Family homework gives families the opportunity to work together on a wide variety of tasks. The purpose is to allow them to spend quality time together, whilst learning together. Family homework can be presented in a variety of ways, such as paper form or 'tweeted' to the schools Twitter page.

Foundation Phase

- We encourage the children to read by giving them reading activities which include sound work and books to take home to share with their parents. We give guidance information to parents to help them achieve the maximum benefit from this time spent reading with their child.
- Children are encouraged to visit libraries in conjunction with topic work, when we ask children to study a topic or to research a particular subject; we encourage them to use the Internet and educational apps.
- Key word lists when appropriate.
- Handwriting when appropriate.
- FP pupils have to learn spellings/letter sounds as part of their homework when deemed ready.
- FP children also have to learn number bonds and/or mathematical tables (when appropriate) as part of their homework.
- FP children will be given a half-termly homework project consisting of six activities. It is expected that the children will complete at least three of these activities and return them to school anytime during the half term.

Key Stage II

- Children will be given a half-termly homework project consisting of six activities. It is expected that the children will complete at least three of these activities and return them to school anytime during the half term. The six activities may be derived from pupil voice.
- Children in year six will have a weekly piece of homework on top of spelling, reading and number work to prepare them for the increased amount of homework from their high schools.
- Children are asked to learn mathematical tables on a regular basis.
- Handwriting when appropriate.
- We encourage the children to read by giving them books to take home to read with their parents.
- These home readers are chosen by the children from the Micro-librarian system and can be changed daily if read. Children in both Key Stages are encouraged to read regularly with parents on their home reading book.
- Homework may be presented digitally, done on the HWB+ platform or returned as a 'tweet' if set by the class teacher.
- Sometimes we ask children to talk about a topic at home prior to studying it in school.
- Children in Year 6 will be given a homework diary to use in preparation for use of a diary in the high school.
- All homework should receive some kind of feedback. This feedback may be verbal or written.

5. Pupils with Additional Needs

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has additional needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. A child's IDP will outline a child's level.

Staff will consider the needs of pupils with dyslexic/specific learning difficulties when setting differentiated homework tasks. Homework instructions need to be clear, parents and the class teacher need to discuss how long should be spent on each homework activity.

6. 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. We expect parents to mark their child's reading marker as often as possible.

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. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented; parents should follow the school's complaints procedure.

7. General Comments

Parents are requested to write to the class teacher if they do not wish their child to receive homework. It must always be remembered that homework is voluntary and we do not intend to make work for ourselves by making a big issue over it. We can encourage children to prepare them for the regular homework they will receive when they go on to their High School.

Homework must be presented as neatly as the child is able to achieve at all times. Homework that does not reach the expected standard of each individual will not be marked and an appropriate comment will be written on the work to record this fact.

Homework is not to be set for children who take holidays during term time.

8. Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the governing body that deals with curriculum issues. Parents complete an annual questionnaire and our governing body pays careful consideration to any concern that is raised at that time by any parent. Our governing body may, at any time, request from our Headteacher a report on the way homework is organised in our school.

This policy will be reviewed Summer Term 2023.