



**Homework Policy  
ALP Leicester  
Stonehill Avenue  
Birstall  
LE4 4JG**

## **Introduction**

The school policy for homework was developed and agreed by the whole staff and has the full agreement of the Executive Board. The original policy was approved and ratified by a member of the Executive Board on Monday 11th September 2023.

## **Aims**

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to learners and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, learners and the school to work together in partnership in relation to learning.
- Encourage learners and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practice or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage learners, where appropriate, to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.

## **The Nature of Homework**

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

- The nature and type of homework changes throughout a learner's school career.
- Amount and frequency of homework will differ according to the learner's ability level.
- Homework should not cause undue stress on the learners, family or the teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the learner's family. If parents/ carers have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables.

## **Homework Tasks**

The learner's individual educational programme will provide strategies for families to use at home to support the learners in making progress over a period of time. Other tasks will be provided weekly if appropriate for the learner.

## **Role of the Class Teacher**

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents and carers when necessary and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work or at a parents' evening if possible.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently.
- To set homework that takes equal and racial opportunities into account.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise learners who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework when necessary and give feedback to learners.

## **Role of the Leadership team and Executive Board**

- 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.

## **Role of Parents/Carers**

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

At ALP Leicester we are very keen for families to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if families get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

## **Expectations**

Most learners (where applicable and appropriate) will have a weekly task to complete at home. This task will be practical and linked to the learner's learning in school that week. The task could have an English link, a mathematics link or a life skills link. There will not be any written work for learners, parents and carers make a brief comment on the task and sign to say it has been completed. Where appropriate, learners will be given a weekly reading book to share with parents at home. Where appropriate, some learners will have a mathematics and phonics worksheet.

## General

- Wherever possible staff should try to mark any homework that is returned by learners. This will help to give the whole process of setting and completing homework a higher profile and status. It will also send out the message that homework is an important and valued aspect of school life. Marking homework is a way of keeping track of who has completed their homework, and giving them feedback on how well they have met the objectives of the work. Marking may be done in a variety of forms, some of which will not be written.
- Feedback may be given to individual learners, or to groups of learners.
- If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a learner is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to contact their child's class teacher.