

# COGNITA



## HOMework POLICY

September 2018



The staff at Charterhouse Square School believe that homework is an important aspect of a child's education. We believe it encourages children to understand that learning can take place outside the classroom, whilst completing homework will promote independent learning and will encourage them to take great responsibility for their personal progress. Homework allows parents, carers and the school, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

## **Aims**

The aim of this policy is to:

- Use homework as a tool to help 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.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- 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.

Homework timetables are displayed on the classroom notice board. A paper copy is issued to the children on the first day of homework at the beginning of the new academic year. Thereafter, all timetables are available on the school website for parents to view or print.

### **1. Homework Folders**

- These must be checked by the teacher everyday. They often contain notes from parents, or other notices to and from the school.
- All homework and reading books for the day are to be put into the folders by the teacher or a monitor in the morning before lessons start, if possible.
- The folders must be replaced, if they have become scruffy and in a poor condition.

### **2. Reading and the Reading Record Book**

- It is important that the reading record books are kept up to date. Where necessary, the teachers are to remind the children of this.
  - The parents/carers must mark and check the homework and sign the book daily.
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- If a child is on the school reading scheme, the level that they are on must be written in the book at the top of the page.
- It is not necessary for the children to read every book in a scheme.
- If a child has left their reading book at home or has mislaid it, a new book is not to be given out until the missing book is returned.
- Children from the Star, Balloon and Kite Rooms (and any other children who are no longer on a reading scheme) are expected to choose their reading books from our school library and are responsible for logging their books in and out of our tracking system.
- In general, a book must be logged back into the school system, before a new book is issued and logged out.
- The general target for KS2 children, if they are not on a reading scheme, is to read approximately ten books a term, totalling thirty for a whole academic year.
- Children may at times like to read their own books; this is permissible, but these must also be recorded in their reading diary.

## 2.1: Reading passports

- Children from the Star, Balloon and Kite Rooms are issued with “reading passports” in the first term and these should be completed throughout the academic year. Each passport contains a variety of different reading genres, which the children are expected to work through in their reading regime.
- They are allocated as follows:  
**Lower Kite and Lower Balloon Room: Bronze**  
**Upper Kite, Upper Balloon and Lower Star: Silver**  
**Upper Star: Gold**
- Once the children have read a book in a particular genre, they are expected to stamp their passports with the appropriate coloured stamp and on some pages, write a short review of that book. These passports are expected to be completed by the end of the summer term.
- Children may choose books from the library, or their own books, whilst working through the genres.
- The genres do not have to be read in any particular order; the children have the entire year to complete the passport.
- To ensure the children are on target, the passports are checked at the end of every term by the teacher.
- Should a child finish a passport before the end of the academic year, their reading regime will continue as normal; they do not move up to the next coloured passport.

## 3. Weekly Homework

It is the responsibility of the teacher to ensure homework is being completed and marked regularly, neatly and presented well. If it is not being completed on a

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regular basis, it is the teacher's responsibility to speak to the children and/or parents to discover the reason.

If homework is not completed on time, and a reasonable excuse is not given, the children must complete homework the following homework night. Alternatively, Upper House children can complete the homework in the library during first break or lunch playtime.

## **Homework days are organised as follows:**

### **3.1 Green Room:**

Alphabet and Phonics Flashcards are sent home from September each day. Jolly Phonics books covering A –Z are sent home each Friday - using a different letter each week. Weekday homework for literacy and numeracy is left in the homework folders for children to complete at their own pace, but will be monitored and over seen by the teacher.

### **3.2 Red Room:**

- Literacy and numeracy books given out from September remain in the homework folders throughout the week for children to complete at their own pace, but are monitored and dated by the teacher.

Monday: numeracy and reading

Tuesday: literacy and reading

Wednesday: reading

Thursday: numeracy and reading

Friday: numeracy, literacy and reading

- Spelling homework is introduced in the summer term

### **3.3 Yellow Room:**

Monday: literacy (spelling) and reading

Tuesday: literacy and reading

Wednesday: reading

Thursday: numeracy and reading

Friday: numeracy, literacy and reading

### **3.4 Blue Room:**

Monday: literacy (spelling) numeracy and reading

Tuesday: literacy and reading

Wednesday: reading

Thursday: numeracy and reading

Friday: numeracy, literacy and reading

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### **3.5 Rainbow Room:**

Monday: literacy (spelling), numeracy and reading

Tuesday: literacy and reading

Wednesday: reading

Thursday: numeracy and reading – reasoning is introduced in the summer term.

Friday: literacy, numeracy and reading

### **3.6 Balloon and Kite Room:**

Monday: literacy (spelling), reasoning, followed by non-verbal reasoning and reading

Tuesday: numeracy and reading

Thursday: literacy, numeracy and reading.

Friday: literacy (comprehension) and numeracy

The Balloon and Kite children are expected to aim to read a book a week.

### **3.7 Star Room:**

Monday: literacy (vocabulary development), numeracy and reading

Tuesday: non – verbal reasoning and reading

Thursday: numeracy (one page revision), verbal reasoning and reading

Friday: literacy (comprehension), numeracy and reading

- The Star Room children are expected to read at least a book a week.
- Children from the Star Room, who have taken an exam to leave in July, will continue with numeracy homework until the end of the academic year, should parents request this. New literacy books are not issued after the January exam.
- The Star Room children are expected to research and write a project and submit the plans for it to Caroline during the spring term for approval. Once approved, the completed project is to be handed in during the summer term.

It is important that children throughout the school are given the appropriate books and ones that reflect their ability. Therefore it is not essential that the children are all on the same book. This needs careful monitoring throughout the year and it is the responsibility of the class teacher to do this.

Where possible, answer books are issued to the children, to assist the parents/carers in their marking of the children's work. The next homework book is not issued until the previous answer book has been returned.

### **3.8 Recommended time allowance**

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It is understood at Charterhouse Square School that our children have busy lives outside school and many attend extra clubs and activities, which may impact on their homework routine. For this reason, we have set out guidelines for the length of time we consider reasonable for our children to spend on their homework. They are as follows:

**Green Room:** No more than ten (10 minutes) and 2 pages of their reading cards and homework book.

**Red Room:** up to 20 minutes written activity, 10 minutes for reading

**Yellow Room:** 20 minutes written activities, 10 minutes reading

**Blue Room:** 25 minutes written activities, 10 minutes reading

**Rainbow Room:** 25 minutes written activities, 10 minutes reading

**Kite and Balloon Rooms:** 30 minutes written activities, 15 minutes reading

**Star Room:** 90 minutes in the autumn term written activities, 30 minutes in the spring and summer terms, 15 minutes reading.

## **4. Holiday Homework**

### **4.1 October, February and May Half Terms:**

All exam children from the Star Room are to have numeracy homework, during the October half term. Otherwise, homework is not to be given out to any other class during any of the half term holidays.

### **4.2 Christmas, Easter and the Summer Holidays:**

- All children in the school will receive numeracy and/or literacy homework during the Easter and summer holiday breaks. No homework is issued over the Christmas period, unless a teacher feels a particular pupil would benefit from extra reinforcement. A reading box and / or handwriting book is provided, if a child is identified by the school as needing further support.
- All Balloon and Kite Room children destined for the Star Room the following September, are to be moved onto Lower Star maths and English books for the summer homework.

## **5. School Trips**

These are usually very exciting days for the children, but can be very tiring too. It is down to the discretion of the teacher whether homework shall be given out on the day of a school trip, if parents have not specifically requested it. If a school trip falls on a Friday, homework is to be given out as normal for the weekend.

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