

ORRITOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

It is the considered collective opinion of the teaching staff that formal homework should play a significant part in the development of the children, for the following reasons:

- (a) In the collective experience of the teachers, homework has contributed significantly to the academic development of the children
- (b) It has been indicated by parents to be highly desirable and helps keep the parents aware of their children's school-work and progress
- (c) The necessity for a sense of self-discipline and independence by the children.

Duration

Depending on the individual child's ability the average homework time should vary between 5 - 30 minutes in the early years and there should be a progression from the purely oral work to a combination of oral and written work, to a maximum of 40 mins in P3/4.

In Key Stage 2 there will be an increase in the time required for homework, with a minimum of 30 minutes. By Primary 7 homework should be increased in length, but should still be satisfactorily completed within a period of between 30 minutes and one hour.

In exceptional circumstances, work which teachers feel could have been completed in school but wasn't, may be set as an additional task. This should not be overly long in nature as it would be a 'catching up' exercise.

All homework will be acknowledged by either:-

- (1) Formal correction
- (2) Self correction
- (3) Correction by partner, or
- (4) By questioning

- It is expected that parents will supervise the children's homework and use this as an opportunity to become involved in their children's work.
- Homework should be presented to a standard acceptable to the class teacher.
- Reading is a core element of the child's homework and must be continued to ensure basic reading skills.

Format of Homework.

Most children will have a basic entitlement to a homework including Reading, Spellings (and to include meanings in upper K.S.2.) and/or Number facts.

On top of this each child, from the end of P1 upwards, will be required to complete at least one written homework in both English and Maths each week.

This would increase from P3 to two Maths and two other written homeworks per week.

The duration of this homework should correspond with the guidance given overleaf and be commensurate with the pupil's age and ability.

At Home

The child should be provided with a suitable, comfortable working environment where the child is free from distractions such as TV, radio, and other children if possible.

Parents should ensure that this homework time is supervised and productive. Very few children will work continuously unsupervised and therefore may not have the work complete in the recommended time.

We would ask parents to ensure that the child does not spend much more than the recommended time (for the pupil's age) doing homework. If parents are happy that the child has worked *studiously* during the homework period, we would ask that the parent makes a short note, in pencil, on the homework or in the child's homework diary at that point, confirming that the proper time was spent attempting it, rather than have the child dwell over it excessively.

Your concerns.

If you feel that your child is continuously struggling to complete homeworks, please contact the class teacher to discuss your concerns.