



FINTON HOUSE SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Member(s) of staff responsible: Katie Cousins, Rachel Cooke & Emily Jenkins

Date Revised: September 2024

Governing committee/sub-committee responsible: Education

A copy of this policy is available to all governors and parents via the school website or a hardcopy on request from the School Office. It is accessible to all staff electronically (in the Policy folder on the Staff Admin Drive) and a hardcopy held on file in the Head's Office. This policy applies to all at the school including those in Reception (the EYFS).

Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Aims and Objectives.....	3
3. Homework Allocation.....	3
Reception – Year 2.....	3
Year 3- Year 6.....	4
4. Expectations and Responsibilities	5
Staff are expected to:.....	5
Pupils are expected to:	5
All parents/carers are expected to:.....	5
Year 3 -6 parents/carers are expected to:.....	5
5. Holiday Homework	6

Policy Updates

Version	Policy Update
September 2023	Children no longer learning weekly spelling lists
	Only Y3 learn recorder

1. Introduction

Homework is anything the children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Its purpose is to support pupils in making maximum personal and academic progress, and achieving the highest possible standards. At Finton House, homework encompasses a wide variety of activities, which change and develop as a pupil moves through the school.

Finton House acknowledges the importance of homework as part of the education our pupils receive and recognises that staff and parents/carers are jointly responsible for this part of their education. We also acknowledge the vital role of play and free time and believe that whilst homework is important, it should not be too onerous or stressful, or prevent children from taking part in a wide range of activities and clubs, and developing their interests and skills to the full.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aim of this policy is to provide a consistent approach to homework throughout the school and set out clear guidelines and expectations for staff, pupils and parents.

The aim of homework is to:

- Promote a constructive and positive partnership between home and school to support each child's learning.
- Consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and allow children to practise skills taught in lessons.
- Develop and build independent study skills and promote habits of enquiry and investigation.
- Help children develop good work habits and a sense of responsibility and commitment to their own learning.
- Enable pupils to make maximum academic and personal progress.

3. Homework Allocation

Reception – Year 2

Formal homework is not set in the Lower School or Year 2. However, all parents are encouraged to play an active role in their child's learning. Staff encourage children to talk to their families about what they are learning at school and to try to find out more about the topics. When appropriate, children may be asked to bring in books or other resources from home. In addition, the subject pages on Frog, the school's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) contain resources and activities which parents can explore with their children.

All parents are expected to regularly hear their child read, to read to them and discuss texts. Reading books/resources are sent home each day and every child has a reading record in which parents are encouraged to write comments. To support parents in hearing their children read, Finton House produces detailed *Reading Guidance for Parents* booklets. These can be downloaded from the Parent Portal on Frog.

Parental support is also vital in helping children learn words and songs for school performances, and also their chosen poem for Poetry Week.

In Year 1 and 2, all children have a weekly spelling test. Parents are asked to support their children in learning their weekly words, which are brought home in their spelling list book/folder.

In Year 2 and above, parents are asked to support their children in learning their times tables. All children in Year 2 and above have a Mathematics account, and are able to log on at home if they choose to complete activities to support their mathematical development.

In addition, from the Summer Term of Reception onwards, all children from Reception to Year 2 are given a weekend task, which is generally linked to a topic being covered at school. This task provides valuable writing practice, but is not compulsory.

Year 3- Year 6

Formal Homework is set in the Upper School and all pupils are given a Homework Diary in which to record tasks set. These are also recorded on the children's class Frog page. The table below details the homework allocation for each year group.

Year Group	Daily Allocation	Subjects
Year 3	20 - 30 minutes	English x 2 Maths x 2 Science/Humanities x 1
Year 4	30 - 40 minutes	English x 1 English/cross-curricular x 1 Maths x 2 Reasoning x 1
Year 5	40 - 60 minutes (Monday - Thursday) 1 x 30 minutes (weekend)	English x 2 Maths x 2 Reasoning x 1
Year 6 (Autumn Term)	40 - 60 minutes (Monday - Thursday) 2 x 30 minutes (weekend)	English x 2 Maths x 2, Reasoning/Science x 2 <i>*Note: homework tasks will vary dependent upon 11+ assessments</i>
Year 6 (Spring Summer Terms) &	40 - 60 minutes (Monday - Thursday) 2 x 30 minutes (weekend)	English x 1 Maths x 1 Science x 1 Humanities x 2 Languages x 1

Homework activities generally consolidate or continue work completed in class and usually need to be handed in the following day. Homework tasks should be able to be completed by pupils within the allotted time without adult help. Obviously, however, many parents take an active interest in homework and there are times when adult guidance can be beneficial or when a child may choose to spend a little longer on a piece of work they are enjoying.

At times, homework may involve research or a carefully structured 'flipped' learning activity. For research-based homework, teachers should guide pupils towards suitable websites and/or books and other resources via the subject pages on Frog. On occasions, Upper School children

may be set a project, independent study or revision activity that lasts for a number of homework sessions. It is important that both staff and parents monitor this work carefully to ensure that it does not all end up being done on the last night: monitoring homework involves checking and providing feedback on the work in progress after each homework.

In addition to the formal homework detailed above, pupils are required to read at home each day and to regularly read aloud to an adult. Pupils also need to practise any set spellings and regularly practise their times tables.

In Year 3, the children learn the recorder, and practice at home is encouraged to ensure that progress is made. Likewise, children having individual music lessons at school are expected to regularly practise at home.

4. Expectations and Responsibilities

Staff are expected to:

- Set homework tasks which are a relevant and coherent part of the work in hand.
- Ensure that individual needs are taken into account and tasks are appropriately differentiated.
- Vary the type of tasks and ensure that the work set is reasonable in terms of the time allocation.
- Provide sufficient information so that pupils and parents/carers know what is required. Note: it is important that the homework set is recorded on Frog.
- Allow sufficient time in class for homework to be explained and recorded in diaries.
- Mark homework and give feedback as appropriate.
- Celebrate effort and achievement in homework tasks.
- Liaise with the Deputy Head, Academic before making any changes to the homework timetable or when setting a project/homework activity that lasts for longer than three homework sessions.
- Check and sign homework diaries every day (Upper School Class Teachers).

Pupils are expected to:

- Listen carefully to instructions about homework and complete their homework diary accordingly.
- Complete their homework to the best of their ability.
- Take pride in the work they complete.
- Hand in their homework on time.
- Hand in their homework diaries every day.

All parents/carers are expected to:

- Take an active interest in their child's learning and provide encouragement and support.
- Listen to their child read (ideally every day), read to their child and discuss texts.
- Sign and complete the reading record regularly, as agreed with Class Teacher.
- Support their child in learning any set spellings
- Support their children in learning their times tables (Year 2 upwards).

Year 3 -6 parents/carers are expected to:

- Reinforce the message that that homework is important and is the pupil's responsibility.
- Provide a suitable working environment and regular routine.
- Ensure the pupil has all the necessary equipment.
- Discuss homework set and assist in planning and organising time, ensuring the time allocated is adhered to.
- Encourage and promote independent work habits.
- Provide assistance during a task, as appropriate, but ensure the work is the child's own.
- Feedback to teachers as appropriate e.g. about the time taken, any difficulties experienced, level of adult intervention, etc.
- Check and sign the homework diary on a daily basis.

If parents have any questions or concerns about homework they should contact the Class Teacher in the first instance. If questions or concerns are of a more general nature, they should contact the Deputy Head, Academic.

5. Holiday Homework

Holiday homework is not routinely set; however, parents/carers are asked to encourage their children to keep up their reading and times tables over the holidays. For children in older year groups, occasionally revision packs will be set in preparation for exams.

In the run up to the 11+ assessments, pupils are given revision and extra work, which they can complete during the holidays under the supervision of their parents/carers.