



Homework Policy

School guidance and expectations

16/11/2025

Version Control

Review Date	Version number	Reviewer/Owner (post holder)	Approved by (Committee)	Signature
November 2021	2	Ruth Lee	TIB	
November 2025	3	Ruth Lee	LGC	

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1. Introduction

The Trust intends and expects that all decisions around the use of Trust resources will be underpinned at all times by its vision and values:

Our aim:

To create centres of educational excellence that inspire all pupils to turn their potential into performance

To achieve this our schools will:

Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that allows pupils to develop their talents and ambitions

Deliver the highest quality learning opportunities facilitated by excellent teachers

Inspire our pupils to become confident, motivated and respectful individuals ready to make a positive contribution to society

The Trust will support our schools by:

Maximising the resources and expertise available to individual schools

Providing a platform for the sharing of excellent practice

Challenging and developing staff to turn their potential into performance

1.1. Aims and Scope

As a school, we value the home-school partnership and believe that the relationship between the learning that takes place in school and at home is fundamental to the success of our pupils.

As parents, you are your children's first educators. Your children have gained a wealth of experience, knowledge and skills from the moment that they were born. As a school, we aim to support the children in developing more formal and structured learning abilities that prepare them for the next stage of their education.

Homework at primary school has three main functions –

- 1) To develop independence and self-motivation skills that will be so important later in life.
- 2) To ensure that children are practising skills and methods that they have learned in school.
- 3) To maintain parents' involvement in their child's learning.

Although homework is a way to involve parents in your children's learning, children are reminded that homework is their responsibility.

1.2. Other linked Policies

Teaching and Learning Policy

SEND Policy

2. Policy Statement

Reading

Once children are reading longer texts and have moved away from the reading schemes, we expect them to read 10 pages a night. This is not an exact figure but it does indicate that a child is reading regularly. Our experience is that if this becomes too challenging then the book is usually not interesting them or is too difficult. To maintain interest in their book, we would expect them to read 50 pages within a 7 day period.

If you run out of books at home, (for example during a holiday) it is fine for your child to be reading educational material online. There are many free online books for children that can be accessed through websites such as Oxford Owl and Apple Books. Similarly, the local libraries are very well stocked with a wide range of age appropriate reading material.

Boom Reader

Boom Reader is an online reading record which enables good communication between school and parents to support the children in their reading journey. Both parents and school staff can have a huge impact on the children's reading ability, fluency and vocabulary development.

We ask that where the children are not old enough to record their reading by themselves, that parents use the app to record each time the child reads at home.

Doodle Maths (Key Stage 2 only)

Doodle Maths is an online resource that enables the children to practise mathematical concepts that they have already been taught. Each activity comes with a lesson which can act as a reminder if your child gets stuck whilst at home. The activities provide the children with immediate feedback and this is then available for the teachers to see how well the children have understood.

Times Tables Rocks Stars

The expectation is that all children know all of their times tables up to x12 by the end of year 4 and are able to recall them at speed (within 6 seconds per question). They are assessed on this through a national statutory test. Times Tables are a vital skill in terms of being able to access many areas of maths and the earlier they know the times tables and can recall them quickly, the more easily they will be able to grasp mathematical skills.

Quizzes and Tests about the wider curriculum

Much of our teaching builds on areas that the children have previously been taught. Often, children forget key information if it is not revisited. Through informal, short, low-stakes quizzes, teachers will be giving pupils opportunity to revisit and check their previous learning.

Wider Learning Projects

On occasion, teachers may set longer, independent projects to support the children's learning across the curriculum. These are often open-ended tasks in which children are encouraged to use their creative skills and present their own understanding.

Whole School Competitions

Children are encouraged to engage with whole school competitions. These are not obligatory but encourage the children to put themselves forward and prepare for celebrations of their learning and their talents.

Independent Learning

Children at Orchid Vale are encouraged to extend their learning at home. We are always happy to support and celebrate occasions where children have shown responsibility for their own learning.

Children with Additional Learning Needs

We have ambitious expectations for our children with additional needs. We recognise that homework may be an additional challenge and that some children will not be able to access the same tasks as their peers. We continue to encourage all of our pupils to develop independence and to continue their learning at home. This may involve some adaptations to homework tasks. Please speak to your child's class teacher if adaptations are appropriate for your child to access the work or even slightly different tasks are required.

3. Appendices

3.1. Guidance and Procedures

Appendix 1 : Typical weekly homework set at Orchid Vale.

This table shows the progressive nature of our expectations throughout the school.

	English	Maths	Wider Curriculum
Nursery	Sharing stories and nursery rhymes	Playing number games, singing number songs	Contributions to classroom learning, updates to Tapestry
Reception	Practising sounds taught in phonics, practising reading and spelling (when they're ready) of common exception words	Fortnightly practical maths activities	Contributions to classroom learning, updates to Tapestry
Year 1	Reading every day Spellings every day Test - weekly	Fortnightly practical maths activities	Occasional tasks relating to current topics.
Year 2	Reading every day Spellings every day Test - weekly	Times Tables Rockstar 2 x a week	Weekly quiz to review previous learning Occasional tasks relating to current topics.
Year 3	Reading every day Spellings every day Test - weekly	Doodle Maths weekly homework Times Tables Rockstar 4 x a week	Weekly quiz to review previous learning
Year 4	Spellings- practise every night for a weekly spelling test. Reading (5 x a week) Weekly comprehension practise	Doodle Maths- weekly homework Times Tables Rockstar 4 x a week	Research relating to current learning in geography/history fortnightly. Weekly test on previous learning.

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Year 5	Spellings- practise every night for a weekly spelling test. Reading (5 x a week) Weekly comprehension practise	Doodle Maths- weekly homework Times Tables Rockstar 4 x a week	Research relating to current learning in geography/history fortnightly. Weekly test on previous learning.
Year 6	Spellings- practise every night for a weekly spelling test. Reading (5 x a week) Weekly comprehension practise	Doodle Maths- weekly homework Times Tables Rockstar 3-4 x a week Arithmetic/SATs Bootcamp (school website) once a week for Term 1 and 2	Research relating to current learning in geography/history fortnightly. Weekly test on previous learning.