Tough School Homework Policy

Rationale

**General tips for supporting learning at home**​

* Listen, talk, and encourage – this can have a big influence on children's learning
* Encourage your child to talk to you about their learning, what learning is happening at school and do what you can at home to build on that.
* Talk to your child about their strengths and interests and how they are progressing.
* Encourage your child to talk to you about their next steps in learning and find out how you can work with the school to support this.
* Ask for help if you think your child needs it for any reason.
* Praise your child if he/she is working hard at something or has achieved something within or out of school.
* Encourage any reading.
* Look for opportunities at home to develop [literacy](https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/Supporting%20literacy%20at%20home) and [numeracy](https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/supporting-numeracy) skills: money, number problems, time, measuring, matching, size, reading, writing, understanding instructions, questioning information.
* Encourage your child to take part in activities, for example hobbies or clubs which will provide opportunities to develop a range of skills.
* Help them work on tasks on their own and then talk about it with you afterwards.
* Do things together where appropriate – learn together, for example if your child has a project or task to do, take an interest and discuss with them what they are doing or offer support if this is needed.
* Help prepare for change, particularly at key transitions – talk about the change together.
* Talk to your child about how they are feeling.
* Work together with the school by taking part in discussions about your child's learning and progress, for example at [parents' evenings](https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/my-school/Parents%27%20meetings) or reviews.

*Education Scotland Parentzone 2017*

“Homework in a primary school has an effect of around zero, which is why we need to get it right, not why we need to get rid of it…Is it really making a difference?...Let’s improve it.”

*John Hattie 2014*

Aims

Homework should help the learners:

* Reinforce learning at school
* Organise and manage their time
* Develop their own interests

Homework should also be useful as a reporting tool to parents, with learners and parents working together to understand their progress with aspects of learning.

Failure to Complete Homework

We consider homework to be important and therefore expect it to be taken seriously by pupils and families. However, we understand that home circumstances may make it impossible for work to be completed occasionally. If this situation arises parents are expected to write a brief explanation to the teacher.

If a child is having difficulty accessing or completing tasks, please let the teacher know during school time before the deadline and they can support. Explain Everything videos will be used to support homework when a new concept is tricky.

Due to our active approach to learning and the paramount importance of teacher input, it is Tough School policy that if a child has a short absence or is absent due to unauthorised holidays, work is not sent home to be completed. If a child has a longer absence, Tough School will make individual arrangements for homework, in consultation with parents. On returning to school, pupils will be supported in class to enable them to catch up on any work they have missed.

Curriculum Organisation

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Cross Curricular | Spelling | Reading | Maths | Time  |
| P1 | Personal projectsTopic-relatedWhole-school challenges | Sounds with grid | Home reader  | On alternate weeks:RM Easimaths and Challenge relating to previous week’s Maths lessons | 10-20 minutes/night |
| P2 | Word list with grid | 10-20 minutes/night |
| P3 | 10-20 minutes/night |
| P4 | 10-20 minutes/night |
| P5 | Personal choice | 15-30 minutes/night |
| P6 | 15-30 minutes/night |
| P7 | 15-30 minutes/night |
| Distributed and returned | On occasion – other homework will not be issued | Words given on Monday, completed by Friday | Pages given twice a week:Tuesday and Friday | Challenges given on Monday, completed by Friday |
| Informed through… | Written noticeEmailsGlow Launchpad School Site Tile | Glow Launchpad School Site Tile | Reading records | Glow Launchpad School Site Tile |
| Feedback from… | Teachers during class time.Peers during whole school sharing sessions.Parents when completing. | Self through dictation score.Peers and teachers through photos sent to school or products completed.Parents when completing. | Parents when reading aloud. | Computer programme.Peers and teachers through photos sent to school or products completed.Parents when completing. |