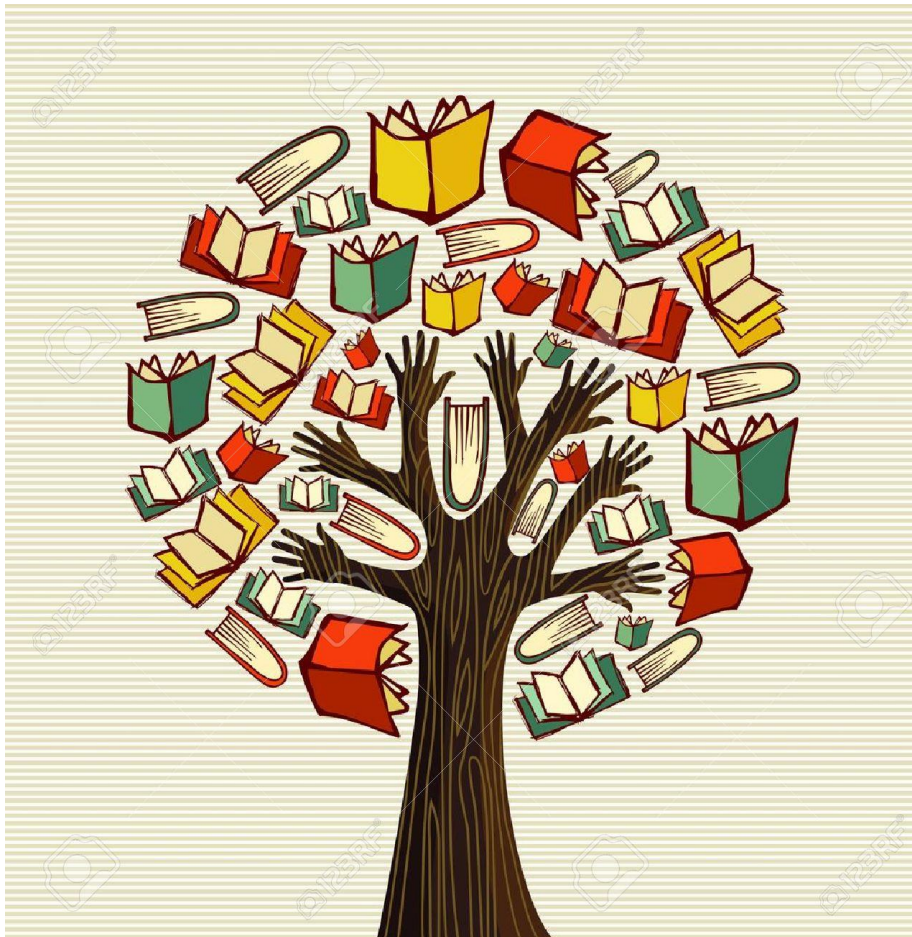




WOODLEA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Parent's Guide to Homework



At Woodlea, we see homework a way of consolidating and extending the work completed at school. We regard it as one of the ways of raising achievement and standards in the school.

It is designed to:

- provide opportunities for individualised work and develop the skills of independent learning
- help parents gain insight into their child's school work and promote partnership between home and school
- consolidate and reinforce learning undertaken in school
- help children develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future
- provide a context for parent/carer and pupil interaction

Through the setting of homework, we are asking you to be actively involved in your child's learning, we ask then that you support our work here at school by encouraging your child to complete their homework.



Type of homework

Reading

This is key to everything your child will do in school. We expect parents to hear their child read and read to their child every evening and this applies to all ages from Reception to Year 6. These should be books from your own collection or the local library or books that have been selected at school and should be in addition to the school reading scheme for younger children. Lists of recommended reading books for each year group are available on our website.

Times Tables

Every parent should support their child and the school by practising the times tables. Children cannot meet end of year expectations from Year 2 unless they know their times tables.

Handwriting

All children need to practise this regularly. We ask that attention is paid to handwriting and presentation when completing written homework.

How will you as parents know about the homework?

Homework Diaries

Children in year groups 3, 4, 5, and 6 will have a homework diary. The children will note any homework set. The homework diaries will have a timetable of which subjects they need to complete on which days.

You need to check this diary and sign it weekly to show us you have seen it. You may use the book to record any questions or comments you might have.

Reading Diary

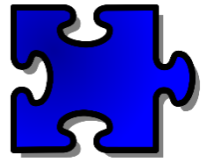
Children in all year groups will have a reading record book. This will enable you to record which reading book your child has read and how they are progressing with it. Teachers will check these weekly or daily if appropriate.

School Website

The school website has a list of recommended reading books for all year groups. In addition, it has links to a range of websites that parents can use for extra activities.

Curriculum Jigsaw Leaflets

These are sent home at the end of each term so that you and your child are prepared for what will be taught during the new term. Each leaflet also contains suggestions of activities and tasks that could be undertaken over the holiday.



Amount of homework

Reception	10-15mins 4x week	Reading including word flashcards, phonic flashcards, picture books. Writing folder (1xweek) Letter formation
Years 1 and 2	Approx. 1 hour per week Year 2 up to 1½ hours	Reading, learning spellings. Writing file Y2 – ½ termly maths sheets
Years 3 and 4	1½ hours per week	Emphasis on English and maths with occasional tasks from across the curriculum
Year 5	2 hours per week	Emphasis on English and maths but also ranging widely across the curriculum. Children are still expected to read to an adult at least 3x week
Year 6	2½ hours per week	

ALL YEAR GROUPS MUST MAKE TIME TO READ EVERY DAY.

What happens when the homework is completed?

The teacher will assess the work and give feedback either verbally or through written comments on the work or in the case of projects through the sharing of the work with other children in the class/other classes. It may also be assessed through tests, for example spelling and tables tests, or self-marking by the child with the whole class.

What happens if my child does not hand in the homework?

If there are good reasons for children not completing the homework, please let the teacher know by making a note in the homework diary.

For Infant children we hope that encouragement from home and school will be sufficient to ensure the completion of the homework. Teachers will talk to individual parents if homework is regularly missed.



In Junior classes, children may be asked to complete the homework during short supervised sessions at lunchtime. Some children will be offered the chance to attend a homework club where they will receive support with their work. Please do come in and talk to your child's class teacher if there are ongoing issues with the completion of homework.

How do we ensure equality?

All children must have the opportunity to benefit from homework. We will therefore aim to:

- ensure that the homework given is of an appropriate level to suit the ability of the child.
- encourage the child's independence so that they can organise themselves to complete it.
- support parents whose home circumstances make completing homework problematic.

Finally, but importantly:

We cannot emphasise enough that children should have leisure time, and time to take part in out of school activities, clubs, meet with friends etc. Homework should not take over and fill all their spare time during this important time in their development. Any additional activities you can do with your child, such as cooking, reading, visiting the library, visiting interesting places and playing games, will all contribute to their learning.

