



<b>Capel-le-Ferne Primary School</b>	
<b>Homework Policy</b>	
Date agreed by Governors	13.03.2024
Date of next review	Spring 2026
Further information about policy	This policy will be reviewed every 2 years or if there is a change to relevant guidance or legislation. The appendix letter templates are provided by KCC.
"Learning today for life tomorrow" Our Values: Independence, Creativity, Confidence, Respect	



### **Rationale**

At Capel-le-Ferne Primary School, we believe that education is a co-operative partnership between the school, the child and the home. We know that homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at school, especially when families are actively involved. In formulating our Homework Policy, we have looked at research by the EEF alongside Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction, listened to the views of parents, listened to feedback from staff and have noted the recommendations of the DfE. Above all, we have carefully considered what is reasonable for the children in our school.

While opinions vary greatly on the subject of homework, there does seem to be a general consensus that children should be able to access homework independently and it shouldn't detract from both quality time spent with family and engaging in clubs and activities both in school and externally. Our approach is balanced with these considerations, and the school's responsibility to the children that they are as well prepared for the expectations of homework in Secondary School. In keeping with this, the policy aims to capture and incorporate the importance of the 6 principles of Nurture.

Evidence from research conducted by the EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) August 2021 highlights that homework works in connection with what is learnt in school. 'Homework should relate to learning during normal school time. In the most effective examples, homework is an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on. To maximise impact, it is paramount that students are provided with high quality feedback on their work.'

Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction: a set of 10 research-based principles of instruction outline the importance of revisiting key learning to ensure this is embedded in pupil's long-term memory. At Capel-le-Ferne Primary school we see homework as an opportunity for pupils to embed and apply prior learning, particularly in the areas of arithmetic and reading. Pupils will not be set 'new learning' as a homework task, but be expected to revisit and build upon existing knowledge and skills.

This does not mean though that we are not considerate of the importance of open ended activities that focus on creativity. It is important our approach captures opportunities that might be realised through work at home that is not necessarily a task set that must be completed by all.

### **Principles**

Helping a child learn at home can and should be a positive experience. The individual attention a parent can give, even if only for a short time, can help to motivate a child, further build confidence



and self-esteem and help progress. A parent's attention, focused on the kind of learning a child does at school also means that the child understands the value his or her parents put on education. We recognise the importance of the role of the parent as a child's first educator. This role does not diminish once their child is in school. A working partnership between school and home enhances the educational development of the child and so helps raise attainment. We consider any help that parents feel able to offer their child(ren) at home as extremely worthwhile. We also strongly believe that children should have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, learn about their culture and family origins and undertake hobbies that interest and inspire them. School will ensure that parental engagement is not hindered by communication issues and will use the website to give parents clarity on work set and expectations.

### **Purpose of Homework: Consolidate, Extend and Prepare**

- Developing an effective partnership between the school, parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school. This is also, of course, the purpose of the home school agreement.
- Consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding, particularly in Reading and Arithmetic.
- Exploiting resources for learning, of all kinds, at home.
- Revisiting and building on prior learning.
- Extending vocabulary through daily reading.
- Encouraging pupils as they get older to develop confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

### **Implementation of the policy**

The policy will be implemented in the following ways:

- The overview to homework will be available on the homework tab in the 'curriculum' section of the school website. This will outline what homework is being set and when. It will cover the main focuses for that small term.
- Class pages will indicate any further specifics around homework. Where there is a change from the overview, this will be updated on the class pages. Class pages can be found on the school website under the 'children' tab.

### **Equity**

Following the principles of Rosenshine, pupils will be set homework that develops fluency of existing skills in number and reading. Tasks will be set at the level that children are independently able to access in class, eliminating the need for adult support in order for a task to be completed. Homework will be designed to allow pupils to show and share, demonstrating what they have learned in class, the parent then becomes an appreciator of how their child is growing their skills and abilities. For some families, allowing time for homework to be completed and/or providing the time to work, discuss homework with their children, can be challenging even where there is every intention to provide what is needed. The school recognises this and will work to ensure there are opportunities for targeted children to complete homework in school. One of these methods will be an after-school club focused on completing homework with targeted children and families.

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School will provide more time during the school day or after school for students to complete homework at school –This will take the form of an optional homework club that pupils can attend.

**Connections to other school policies and external references**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Home School Agreement that can be found on the school website. It has also been designed with careful consideration of the 6 Principles of Nurture. Furthermore, it has been created based on Rosenshine (10 principles of instruction) and Joyce L. Epstein, Ph.D.