



Homework Guidance

Cranberry Academy Homework Guidance

What are the aims of this guidance?

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

What is the purpose of homework?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding particularly in English and Maths.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

What is the role of the Academy?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.
- To provide support for children with the running of a homework club.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To mark and give feedback about homework.

- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

Homework in the Foundation Stage

Learning together is the emphasis for children in the Foundation Stage. It is an ideal time to lay the foundations for continuing work at home.

What type of work will my child get?

Reading

Parents will be informed of the themes, phonemes and high frequency words that the children are learning in school each half term.

Starting in the Autumn term and continuing all year, the main emphasis is on reading at home. This should be done in two ways.

- Adults reading to children.

Parents are encouraged to read regularly to their children. Parents should encourage children to point to words as they are being read. Discussion about the books is also important.

- Children reading to an adult.

When they are ready to, children will start bringing simple books home to read to an adult. Again, encouraging the child to point to the words as they are being read is important. Discussing the story and the characters and asking questions about the book will help with the child's understanding of language.

Homework in FS1

The children follow the Firm Foundations Homework Scheme which are practical activities. These develop early literacy skills such as rhyme, sequencing and using story book language. Activity folders are sent out on a Friday and collected in on the following Wednesday. The children are also given a simple reading book when they are ready.

Homework in FS2

The children are given Literacy or Maths tasks on alternate weeks. They support work that has been carried out within the classroom. A homework book is sent home on a Friday and collected in on the following Wednesday. Children are also given phonic and key word activities linked to work in class.

How much time should be spent on homework?

Reception	Approx 15 minutes per day (depending upon the child's level) on Literacy based activities including reading.
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Homework in Key Stage1.

For children in Key Stage One we encourage parents to work together with their child to support them with their homework.

What type of work will my child get?

Reading.

Reading on a regular basis is vital when children are in year one and two. Children will bring their reading books home every evening and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words, sounding out the word, looking at the pictures and looking for words within words are ways in which the child can read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that the child has understood what they have read. Children will have a reading record/organiser which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read with the child.

Phonics and Spellings

Children will have phonics sessions throughout Key Stage 1 which will also include ways that children can build up a secure sight vocabulary. It is vital that children build up a bank of words which they can read and spell on sight. Children will bring home weekly spellings related to the phonics they have learnt during the week.

Maths

Maths homework will be sent on a weekly basis. Work will be set which reinforces the learning taking place in the classroom that week.

How much time should be spent on homework?

Year 1 and 2	10-15 minutes reading daily 5 mins spelling 1 X 15 minutes Numeracy or Topic task
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Homework is given out on a Friday and collected in on the following Wednesday.

Homework in Key Stage 2.

As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skill of independent learning. It is important that parents support their children but good habits of independent study should be encouraged.

The main focus for homework in Key Stage 2 continues to be English and Maths however children will be given more varied tasks in other areas of the curriculum.

What type of work will my child get?

Reading.

Children may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves in the presence of an adult. The story and characters should be talked about and new words discussed. Older children need a clear understanding of the story that sometimes will go beyond the literal meaning of the text. Children will read texts that are more detailed and will take longer to read. They should be encouraged to read all types of texts including non-fiction. Children in Key Stage 2 are responsible for filling in their reading record every day and making sure it is in school.

English

This will be based around what the children will be learning in class. The work could be based on spelling or punctuation. They may be asked to read something and answer questions. Sometimes the task will be a piece of writing.

Maths

This will also be based around what the children will be learning in class. The work could be linked to lessons on shape, measures or handling data. Lots of the activities will be based around number work. Children will be asked to make sure they know their tables from 2 to 10. They should be able to recite them and answer mixed questions.

Other Areas.

Work could be linked to any other curriculum area, Science, Geography, History and so on. It could take many forms, preparing a talk, completing a piece of research or conducting an interview.

The nature of this work may be more open ended than in other areas.

How much time should be spent on homework?

Year 3 and 4	15 minutes reading, 5 x per week. 2 x 15 minute tasks in English, Maths or another curriculum area.
Year 5 and 6	20 minutes reading 5 x per week 2 x 20 minutes tasks in English, Maths or another curriculum area.

How can parents find out more information about homework?

Each year group will inform the parents about homework in the welcome to the year letter. To help parents and children an overview of all homework set throughout the school will be sent home.

Teachers will have different systems for handing in homework and they will tell parents and children about this at the beginning of the year.

If parents need advice on how to support their children with homework then they can talk to the class teacher.

Why will children sometimes be given extra homework?

Occasionally, children who work in small groups or one to one situation with teaching assistants will sometimes be given extra homework. In these cases, children should complete this work alongside their normal homework unless the child or the parents have been told otherwise. If the child is finding they have too much work then parents should speak to the child's teacher or teaching assistant who is providing the support.

What about children who don't complete homework?

The expectation is that children will complete homework. Teachers will keep records of children completing homework and these records will be checked on a regular basis. If there are any problems with children not completing homework then the teacher will speak to parents to find out why. There may be occasions when a child will miss playtime or some of a lunch time if they have not completed homework.

What if a child says they have received no homework?

There may be occasions if the teacher is away that the homework is not set but we will try to avoid that happening. If in doubt, please contact the school or your child's class teacher.

How will the homework be marked?

Teachers will mark children's homework in a variety of ways but always according to the schools marking policy. Generally the work will be initialled by the teacher to show they have marked it. Sometimes the work will be 'quality marked'. This is when a piece of work is marked in detail and comments about future progress are added to the work. On other

occasions the work may be marked orally with the child or the class and the initials ‘MT’ (marked with teacher) will be placed in the child’s book. Teachers generally will not mark homework that is handed in late.

Cranberry Academy

Homework Overview

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
FOUNDATION STAGE FS2 <i>Homework handed out on Fri - due back the following Weds</i>					FS1 -Homework folder (due back the following Weds) FS2 - Maths/English (due back the following Wednesday)
YEAR 1 <i>Homework handed out on Friday - due back the following Wednesday</i>					English Maths (due back the following Wednesday)
YEAR 2 <i>Homework handed out on Fri - due back the following Weds</i>					English Maths (due back the following Wednesday)
YEAR 3	Spellings (due back following Monday)				Maths (due back Thursday) English/Topic (due back Friday)
YEAR 4	Spellings (due back following Monday)				Maths (due back Thursday) English/Topic (due back Thursday)

YEAR 5	Spellings (due back following Monday)				Maths (due back Thursday) English/Topic (due back Thursday)
YEAR 6	Spellings English/Topic (due back following Monday)				Maths (due back Friday)

NB: Please support the school by encouraging your child to read at home on a daily basis