NORTHFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL

Homework Policy

Policy Review:	Version:	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Min No:	Date:	Chair
Adopted	22.7.2017			11/17	22.7.2017	
Reviewed	18.7.2018			23/18 SIC	18.7.2018	
Reviewed	V3:21/22	E.Bushnell	D.Craddock	33:21/22	30.03.22	A.Thomas
Reviewed	V4:24/25	V.Poignie	C.Gibbons	35:24/25	5.2.25	C.Nowell

Last Reviewed	**January 2025**
Reviewed By (Name)	**Johnathon Walmsley**
Job Role	**Headteacher**
Next Review Date	**January 2026**
V2:21/22 **V3:21/22** **V4:24/25**	Approved at Governors Cover sheet amended – SHousley Alterations to include apps that are used for homework, removal of reference to SIC- VJ Removal of homework club – Johnathon Walmsley 29/01/2025

NJS Mission Statement

We want all of our children to love coming to school and to find things that excite their curiosity and inspire them to learn, grow and develop as kind, responsible and confident individuals every single day!

What is homework?

The government defines homework as "any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents"

Why Have Homework?

- Consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding – particularly in English and Maths
- To encourage pupils to see themselves as learners in the wider sense not just in school
- To help to develop an effective partnership between school, parents and other carers
- To extend school learning
- To encourage pupils to develop the self-confidence and discipline needed to study on their own.
- To prepare them for the requirements of the secondary school.
- To encourage pupils to succeed and to develop social as well as academic skills.
- To encourage children to accept responsibility for their own learning.

Types of Homework

All pupils at Northfield will be expected to learn a weekly spelling list which may include a grammar or writing activity, practice for times tables tests using Times Tables Rockstars app and complete a section of their maths homework book each week. Year 3 and 4 are expected to read a minimum of three times a week to an adult for a short time (10 minutes) and parents are asked to record this in their reading record book and sign and return it to school each day.

In addition pupils may also be asked to carry out some of the following tasks from time to time as appropriate to the needs of the individual child or class. These could include the following:

- Reading or researching from around the current topics.
- Reading practice and listening to others read – not just school books but also bedtime stories, newspaper and magazine articles.
- Talking about what has been read, heard or seen, to develop the ability to express preference and opinion.
- Computer based activities including apps such as Lexia Reading, Symphony Maths, My Maths, Reading Mate and Spelling Shed
- Practising handwriting, grammar, story writing and diary writing.
- Preparations to take part in discussions and spoken work.
- Completion of tasks started in school.
- Many types of homework are not written and can often be fun.

Parent/Teacher Involvement

- The teacher will set most tasks but clearly parents play a large part in establishing the dialogue between home and school.
- Sometimes a family visit, trip or meeting can be an excellent opportunity to add to a child's experience and a parent may pop in or send a note to tell staff all about it.
- Each teacher will establish set times when you can expect the homework to come home and for your child to return it to school. Sometimes short notes attached to the homework may help communication between home and school/school and home.
- It is important that parents take an active part in supporting homework activities whenever possible but not to do the work themselves! If a child is struggling to do the work set parents are asked to let the teacher know immediately.
- When family commitments/illness and special circumstances make it difficult to complete homework parents are asked to let the teacher know
- Parents are asked to commit to our policy in the Home School Agreement

Recommended Time Allocation

- The government minimum recommended time for homework is 1 hour 30 minutes per week for 7 to 9 year olds and 2 hours per week for 9-11 year olds.
- Little and often is far more productive than irregular, longer sessions. Between 15 and 30 minutes a day doing some sort of homework is about right.

Special Educational Needs

Pupils will be set tasks which are suitable for their individual needs and the expected learning outcomes will vary depending on individual ability.

Feedback

- Pupils will be given feedback on what they have done.
- The learning of spellings, times-tables, number bonds etc will be assessed through regular tests in class.
- As always, parents are very welcome to discuss their child's work with the teacher at any mutually convenient time and homework could be a subject for discussion at one of our regular Parents' Evenings
- Pupils who regularly fail to complete homework without explanation from parents may be asked to complete it during break time or lunch time.

We do ask that parents to agree to our homework policy in the Home School Agreement and to support their child to foster positive attitudes to homework. However, we also understand that childhood is precious and we value the time they spend at home playing and pursuing outside interests. We are always mindful of the fact that children already work hard in school and if parents find that homework is having a detrimental effect on family life or attitudes to learning we encourage them to talk to us.

Monitoring of the Policy

The Headteacher and staff will monitor the day to day implementation of this policy. Pupils and parents will be involved in monitoring the policy through annual questionnaires and opportunities for regular feedback and Governors will monitor the policy regularly.