

# Sherwood Primary School

## Homework Policy



January 2025

We are Sherwood. Each of us unique.  
As one family, we all thrive and excel together.

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## Homework Policy



### Sherwood Curriculum Rationale

We aim to provide a creative, vocabulary rich curriculum that inspires and challenges our children, in preparation for life in a culturally diverse and ever-changing world. High expectations, inclusive approaches and excellent teaching will form the basis of all our work. Our children will have the opportunity to read widely, explore, ask questions and become knowledgeable, independent learners. Our Curriculum will prepare our children for life-long learning.

Inspire • Explore • Achieve

### Sherwood Values

Teaching and Learning at Sherwood Primary School is underpinned by six core values.

The 6 Sherwood Core-Values are:

- Honesty
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Adventure
- Aspiration
- Independence

Alongside our core values, we also promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs across the curriculum.

### Equality

At Sherwood, we believe that equality should permeate every aspect of school life and is the responsibility of every member of our school community. Each member of our school community should feel safe, secure, valued and of equal worth. We are committed to ensuring equality of education and opportunity for all pupils; irrespective of race, gender, gender variance, disability, belief, religion, socioeconomic background or sexual orientation.

It is our aim to understand and tackle the different barriers which could lead to unequal outcomes for different groups of pupils in School. The Equality Act

provides a framework to support our commitment to valuing diversity, tackling discrimination, promoting equality and fostering good relationships between people. It is our aim to celebrate and value the equal opportunity achievements and strengths of all members of our School Community.

## Definition

Homework is defined as work set by the teacher to be undertaken at home, either by the child alone or with the support of an older sibling, parent or carer. Homework at Sherwood will involve a variety of activities including:

- Reading: independent, shared or paired reading, with discussion activities exploring vocabulary, reinforcing comprehension and deepening understanding of the text.
- Spellings and vocabulary: learning sounds and spellings, activities to apply phonics, spelling rules and patterns.
- Key mental maths skills to rehearse orally, including rapid recall of number and calculation facts.
- Handwriting practice and consolidation, supporting a comfortable and legible handwriting style.
- Research into an aspect of the curriculum as preparation for, or extension to, work carried out in class.
- Written tasks in English and Maths to consolidate work completed in class.
- Tasks to extend work carried out in class, including topic-based work.

## Aims

At Sherwood, our pupils' homework forms a key part of our partnership between home and school, with the aim of working together to help all children achieve their full potential. We believe that homework is an essential part of pupils' learning. Children are encouraged to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life. Homework is carefully planned to reinforce skills and understanding, and to enhance and extend learning further.

Through the provision of a variety of activities and approaches to homework we aim to:

- raise standards in all curriculum areas;
- reinforce basic skills in Maths and English;
- create a sound partnership between parents and teachers with regard to children's learning;
- improve pupils' independent learning skills and attitudes to learning.

## Inclusion

Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities have access to the full curriculum. Tasks are adapted where necessary, so barriers are broken down and children can succeed. If barriers to completing homework arise, teachers work closely with parents and carers to provide support and adaptation.

A significant proportion of pupils at Sherwood are identified as having English as an Additional Language. All teachers are language teachers and there is a collective responsibility, held by all staff, to identify and remove barriers that stand in the way of the learning and success of EAL learners and to support their language development.

## The role of our Teachers

At Sherwood, our teachers will:

- Provide a clear overview of weekly homework tasks through our school website.
- Provide pupils with details of how to access the range of online resources used to support pupils' learning.
- Provide our children with guidance on how to work safely online.
- Ensure that homework is carefully explained. This may include video links to modelled content on our school website.
- Provide adapted tasks, as appropriate, to support pupils' next steps in learning.
- Provide an opportunity to reinforce or practise work covered in class
- Ensure feedback is provided in line with the school's Feedback Policy. This may include whole class discussion, verbal or written feedback or audio feedback through Seesaw.
- Give reasonable time for the completion of homework.
- Provide additional guidance for families through termly curriculum newsletters and modelled video content on our website.
- Inform parents if homework is consistently not completed and work with families to provide support in removing any barriers.
- Provide guidance and support to parents on strategies and methods used where possible. This may be through an example.

## The role of our Parents and Carers

We encourage our parents and carers to discuss homework activities with their child, linking to prior learning in class. Parents and carers are encouraged to liaise with our class teachers if their child has difficulty with his/her homework.

## The Administration of Homework

Homework is set on a weekly basis. For Years 1 - 6 it is shared through the school website on a Friday and completed by the Wednesday of the following week. Activities for children in the Early Years are shared through the EYFS Weekly Newsletter and on Seesaw. Homework is not set over holiday periods, but children may be given suggestions of how to enhance their learning through a particular theme.

Pupils are provided with exercise books in which to complete paper-based tasks and a login to Seesaw for completion and submission of online activities. A link to other online tasks is provided on the homework overview.

## Content

### EYFS

Pupils in EYFS are encouraged to read at home for 5-10 minutes each day. In addition to reading, a weekly activity linked to their work in phonics is set through Seesaw. Further activities linked to number and the wider curriculum are suggested through the EYFS Newsletter.

### KS1

Pupils in Years 1 and Year 2 are encouraged to read at home for 10-15 minutes each day. A reading focus for the week is suggested in the homework overview. Two core learning tasks are shared each week, and it is expected that each task will take 15-20 minutes. These will include opportunities to enhance the writing transcription skills of spelling and handwriting, practising and applying mathematical learning and links to our wider curriculum. Our teachers will also provide an overview of key mental maths skills to practise.

### KS2

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 are encouraged to read at home for 15-20 minutes each day. A reading focus for the week is suggested in the homework overview. Two core learning tasks are shared each week, and it is expected that each task will take 25-30 minutes. These will include opportunities to enhance the writing transcription skills of spelling and handwriting, practising and applying mathematical learning and links to our wider curriculum. Our teachers will also provide an overview of key mental maths skills to practise.

## Monitoring and Evaluation of Homework

We will monitor homework across the school to ensure that it is meaningful, accessible for all and meets the aims of this policy. A schedule for Monitoring and Evaluation is delivered each term linked to our ongoing cycle of school improvement. Feedback from our children, parents and carers forms a vital part of our ongoing evaluation.

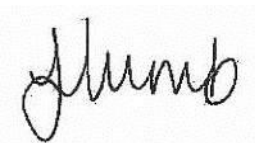
### Policy links:

- Online Safety Policy
- Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement
- Equality Policy
- Remote Learning Policy
- SEND Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Curriculum Policy Documentation
- Assessment Policy
- Feedback Policy

Approval date: January 2025

Review date: January 2027

Signed (Headteacher)    Signed (On behalf of the Governing Body)



Mrs J Lumb  
Headteacher



Mrs H Gooch  
Chair of Governors