



SILVERHILL SCHOOL

HOMWORK POLICY

Homework is valuable for the following reasons:

- It can help pupils to make more rapid progress in learning.
- It can allow pupils to develop the practice of working on their own without the constant presence of the teacher.
- Work at home can provide quiet and private conditions.
- It can allow valuable practice of skills learned in the classroom.
- It can allow pupils to use different materials and other sources of information.
- It can give opportunities for long term research and other work.
- It gives pupils valuable experience of working to dead lines
- It forms a link with the methods of study crucial to success at Secondary School.

The nature of the homework will vary between year groups, different classes and topics of study. Compulsory homework is not set for school holidays, although project work is sometimes given. Marking homework forms an integral part of our assessment.

Parents are asked to sign homework diaries.

Each homework may involve the following:

- Reading, writing, spelling.
- In the early years reading books are taken home. Pupils read at home and practise key words or sounds with their family.
- Weekly spellings can be given and possibly number bonds or tables.
- carrying out a project. This may involve research, collection of information for an individual or group project;
- observing/recording;
- making a model to exemplify an item of work. Materials are either provided or involve the use of `household junk` items.
- completing an exercise to practice, enforce or apply aspects of the class work, e.g. writing up practical work. This type of homework would usually be restricted to years 5 and 6.

The task selected by the class teacher is commensurate with the ability of the pupils.

After-school Homework is supervised in the Library.

Pupils may also be allowed to work quietly in the Library at the discretion of the teacher on duty.

HOW DOES THE SCHOOL HELP PUPILS ORGANISE THEIR HOMEWORK ?

- Each pupil is given a homework diary at the beginning of the year. It says when the homework for each subject area will be set and when it is due in.
- We try to make sure that our instructions concerning homework are clear to everyone in the class, and that all pupils have plenty of time to copy down what is expected.
- We aim to mark or respond to homework regularly, and in a way that is helpful to pupils.

HOW CAN PARENTS OR GUARDIANS HELP WITH HOMEWORK ?

- Check that homework details are filled in clearly and regularly in the homework diary. There is space there for parents' signature.
- Help their child organise his or her time to best advantage so that things are not all left to the last minute or even forgotten.
- Try to make sure that there are suitable working conditions at home.
- Take a positive and active interest in their child's work at home rather than just insisting that it is done.
- Let staff know if there are problems with homework. Perhaps a child seems to be doing too much, or not enough, or is finding it too easy or too difficult. Contact the class teacher in the first instance who will be glad to help.

FAILURE TO HAND IN HOMEWORK

We expect completed homework to be given in on time especially in Year 6. This gives pupils valuable experience of working to dead lines. If homework is not given in appropriate action is taken:

- the class teacher will have a discussion with the pupil to find out if there are good reasons for the failure to hand in the work;
- the class teacher may contact the parents;
- pupils may be told to attend a lunch time detention to complete the work.