

BISHOP JOHN ROBINSON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Homework Policy**

Be the best we can;  
Join in learning, play and prayer,  
Remember God's Word.

<b>Implemented</b>	September 2014
<b>Presented by</b>	Head Teacher
<b>Ratified by Governors</b>	2015
<b>Review Date</b>	September 2017
<b>Next Review Date</b>	September 2019

## Mission Statement



We want all adults and children to: **Be the best they can** in order to have best possible start in life and to make the most of the gifts God has given. To achieve this we;

- Set ambitious targets for all pupils and staff
- Continually look for ways to improve
- Have high expectations of behaviour for all

We encourage children to: **Join in Learning**, to promote academic excellence and to inspire everyone to value the importance of education in wider society. To achieve this we;

- Provide an engaging curriculum with opportunities for learning in a variety of contexts
- Strive for all lessons to be focussed and engaging to allow all children to achieve
- Support deeper levels of understanding so that children can apply learning to different settings

For children to: **Join in Play** is important at BJR because Play is essential for everyone's social and emotional development. It is a vital life skill which helps children to form the adult they will become building trust, forgiveness and resilience. To promote positive play we;

- Have dedicated staff who promote play EVERY PLAYTIME
- Promote the importance of play through PLAY DAYS
- Invest in the playground as a learning resource

We want the school community to: **Join in Prayer** as Christians believe that this is fundamental to developing a relationship with God as well as giving thanks and praise. We encourage this though;

- High quality collective worship for all children
- Daily acts of prayer
- Valuing the essential role of our School Chaplain

We believe that we should: **Remember God's Word**, as this is at the very Foundation of being a Christian school. In promoting a practical understanding and application of Christian Values we strive to; *"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it"* Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV) through;

- Providing High quality RE teaching and daily collective worship for all children
- Regular visits to church and other places of worship

## Teacher Standards

This Policy has been written in accordance with the Teacher Standards. Specifically:

### 4. Plan and teach well-structured lessons

- impart knowledge and develop understanding through effective use of lesson time
- promote a love of learning and children's intellectual curiosity
- *set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired*
- reflect systematically on the effectiveness of lessons and approaches to teaching
- contribute to the design and provision of an engaging curriculum within the relevant subject area(s).

Also with reference to the OFSTED framework (September 2016)

Grade Descriptors:

#### Outstanding

"Teachers set challenging homework, in line with the school's policy and as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come"

#### Good

"Teachers set homework, in line with the school's policy and as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning and prepares pupils well for work to come."

## PURPOSE OF Homework

### What do we want to achieve with homework?

- Consolidate learning
- Revise, practise and memorise skills and learning
- Partnerships with parents - shared experience
- Apply learning in new contexts and to new problems
- Meaningful without impacting on positive family experiences
- Promotes independence and choice (good life skills)
- Homework should be at an appropriate level for the child

### What do we NOT want?

- Homework to cause stress or anxiety
- Parents to do the work for the child
- Inconsistency across the school eg of strategy in maths

### Where do we want homework to fit into our teaching?

- At the very beginning of a topic to fire interest
- During a topic to embed understanding
- At the end of a topic to consolidate

### Range of Homework Tasks

Homework at BJR consists of the following activities

Task	Principles
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EYFS &amp; KS1 2 Reading books go home each week (one levelled and one choice). Reading should happen every day. Reading should be recorded in the Reading Record Book and regularly checked in school</li> <li>• Y3 same as KS1</li> <li>• Y4 onwards: reading should happen on a daily basis. Children must record what they have read using a small book which is checked by teacher. Books may come from classrooms, regular trips to the school library or from home.</li> </ul>
Spellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly spellings set and tested in all classes -differentiated to meet the needs of the learner</li> </ul>
Times tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KS2 Different times tables (and mixed times tables) set and tested on a weekly basis</li> <li>• KS1 linked to models images and revisited weekly.</li> </ul>
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open ended projects linked to theme set at the beginning of a term and handed in on a set date at the end.</li> </ul>
Handwriting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Occasionally, handwriting homework will be set in EYFS linked to phonics</li> </ul>
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KS1&amp;2 - Mathematics set by the teacher at the beginning of the term. Certificates for points will be presented during sharing assembly in Fridays.</li> <li>• KS1 &amp; Y3 - One maths sheet sent home from the Maths Scheme each week</li> <li>• KS2 - Two maths sheets sent home each week, one from the Maths Scheme</li> <li>• Year 6 - Practice tests form part of regular year 6 homework in the Spring Term</li> </ul>
Phonics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EYFS &amp; KS1 weekly phonics sheets related to the phonics phase</li> </ul>
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grammar</li> <li>• Writing</li> <li>• Reading comprehension</li> </ul>

### Communicating homework with families

Each child will have a homework book or folder in which to record homework. Set work will be explained to the class and sometimes written (or stuck) into the book.

### Differentiation of homework

All homework must be suitably differentiated to meet the needs of the children in the class.

### How homework will be marked

- Homework will be marked in line with the Assessment Policy. It will often be peer marked in class and checked by the teacher as part of a lesson to consolidate learning.
- Teachers should keep a record of completed homework to ensure all children are regularly handing it in
- Spellings and Times Tables tests will also usually be peer marked and recorded by the teacher
- Longer, topic homework will be marked by the class teacher

### Support for homework

- Parents are encouraged to support their child with homework by sitting with them, talking through and encouraging.
- Families are encouraged not to do the work for the child as it does not foster independence.

### What happens if a child doesn't complete homework on time?

- Homework is not intended to cause stress or anxiety. To that end, families are encouraged not to force children to do homework but rather, make the right choice about it. If the child chooses not to do their homework, then the consequence should come from school, not home.
- Children who have not completed homework will be dealt with in a number of different ways according to the circumstances of the child
  - Asked to complete it in class (eg when the rest of the class are marking or going over it)
  - Asked to complete it at lunchtime or playtime
  - Given additional time to finish the homework at home
  - Asked to complete it during Golden Time on Friday
  - Not be rewarded alongside the rest of the class

How many pieces of homework are set per week?	
Early Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading every school day</li> <li>• Phonics tasks</li> <li>• Mathematics - introduced in Reception and phased in over the year</li> <li>• Occasional investigative challenges</li> <li>• Handwriting</li> </ul>
Key Stage one and Y3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading every day</li> <li>• Mathematics every week</li> <li>• 1 piece of maths homework linked to previous learning OR to future learning from the scheme</li> <li>• Weekly spellings</li> <li>• Weekly times tables</li> <li>• Termly projects</li> <li>• Handwriting</li> </ul>
Key Stage Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading every day</li> <li>• Mathematics every week</li> <li>• 2 pieces of maths homework linked to previous learning OR to future learning, one from the scheme</li> <li>• Weekly spellings</li> <li>• Weekly times tables</li> <li>• Termly projects</li> <li>• Test preparation in Y6 from Spring term</li> </ul>

Teachers can choose when homework is to be set and handed in and must allow a reasonable amount of time for all children to complete it. A letter (see appendix) will be given to parents in the Autumn term to explain this.

## Appendix

### Model Homework Letters

1. Key Stage 1 and Y3
2. Year 4-6
3. Early Years



**Bishop John Robinson CE Primary School**

**Head Teacher: Mr Ken Maslin**

**Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jo Richardson**

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**Key Stage 1 and Year 3  
Homework Letter**

Hoveton Road  
Thamesmead  
London SE28 8LW  
**Tel: 0208 310 9160**

Fax: 0208 320 8637 Email:  
headteacher@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk

Dear Families of Children in Year 1 to 3

At Bishop John Robinson, we believe that Homework plays an important part in a child's education. We aim for homework to:

- Consolidate learning
- Strengthen partnerships with parents through a shared experience
- Give opportunities to apply learning in new contexts and to new problems
- Be meaningful without impacting on positive family experiences
- Promote independence and choice (good life skills)

We want to avoid; homework causing stress or anxiety at home, adults doing the work for the child inconsistency across the school. According to our homework policy, Homework in Y1-3 will consist of:

Reading every day	Recorded in the reading record book
Mathletics every week	Set and monitored by the class teacher
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 piece of maths homework linked to previous learning OR to future learning</li></ul>	In year XXXX this will be given out on XXXX and handed in on XXXXX. The work will be marked in class and checked by the teacher.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekly spellings</li></ul>	In year XXXX these will be given out on XXXX and tested on XXXXX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekly times tables</li></ul>	In year XXXX these will be given out on XXXX and tested on XXXXX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Termly projects</li></ul>	Details of these will be sent in a separate letter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Handwriting</li></ul>	In year XXXX this will be given out on XXXX and handed in on XXXXX.

A copy of the school's homework policy is available to view on the school website <http://www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk/>. We hope that families will be able to support children with homework and ask families to communicate with school either by letter or verbally if there has been a particular reason if homework tasks have not been completed.

Kind Regards  
XXXXX



**Bishop John Robinson CE Primary School**  
**Head Teacher: Mr Ken Maslin**  
**Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jo Richardson**

**Key Stage 2**  
**Homework Letter**

Hoveton Road  
Thamesmead  
London SE28 8LW  
Tel: 0208 310 9160  
Fax: 0208 320 8637 Email:  
headteacher@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk

Dear Families of Children in Year 4 to 6

At Bishop John Robinson, we believe that Homework plays an important part in a child's education. We aim for homework to:

- Consolidate learning
- Strengthen partnerships with parents through a shared experience
- Give opportunities to apply learning in new contexts and to new problems
- Be meaningful without impacting on positive family experiences
- Promote independence and choice (good life skills)

We want to avoid; homework causing stress or anxiety at home, adults doing the work for the child home and inconsistency across the school.

According to our homework policy, Homework in Y4-6 will consist of;

Reading every day	Recorded by the child in the reading record book
Mathletics every week	Set and monitored by the class teacher
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 pieces of maths homework linked to previous learning OR to future learning</li></ul>	In year XXXX this will be given out on XXXX and handed in on XXXXX. The work will be marked in class and checked by the teacher.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekly spellings</li></ul>	In year XXXX these will be given out on XXXX and tested on XXXXX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekly times tables</li></ul>	In year XXXX these will be given out on XXXX and tested on XXXXX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Termly projects</li></ul>	Details of these will be sent in a separate letter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SATs Preparation</li></ul>	Starting in Spring term in Y6.

A copy of the school's homework policy is available to view on the school website <http://www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk/>. We hope that families will be able to support children with homework and ask families to communicate with school either by letter or verbally if there has been a particular reason if homework tasks have not been completed.

Kind Regards XXXXX



**Bishop John Robinson CE Primary School**  
**Head Teacher: Mr Ken Maslin**  
**Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Jo Richardson**

### **EYFS Homework Letter**

Dear Families of Children in Year Nursery and Reception

Hoveton Road  
Thamesmead  
London SE28 8LW  
Tel: 0208 310 9160  
Fax: 0208 320 8637 Email:  
headteacher@bjr.greenwich.sch.uk

At Bishop John Robinson, we believe that Homework plays an important part in a child's education. We aim for homework to:

- Consolidate learning
- Revise, practise and memorise skills and learning
- Strengthen partnerships with parents through a shared experience
- Give opportunities to apply learning in new contexts and to new problems
- Be meaningful without impacting on positive family experiences
- Promote independence and choice (good life skills)
- Be at an appropriate and achievable level to further academic success

We want to avoid; homework causing stress or anxiety at home, adults doing the work for the child and inconsistency across the school.

According to our homework policy, Homework in Nursery and Reception will consist of;

Reading every school day	Recorded in the reading record book
Mathletics	Introduced in Reception and phased in across the year
• Phonics tasks	In XXXXX class, phonics tasks will be sent home on XXXX and need to be returned by XXXXX
• Investigative challenges	These will be explained in a separate letter
• Handwriting	In year XXXX this will be given out on XXXX and handed in on XXXXX.

A copy of the school's homework policy is available to view on the school website <http://www.bishopjohnrobinsonprimary.co.uk/>. We hope that families will be able to support children with homework and ask families to communicate with school either by letter or verbally if there has been a particular reason if homework tasks have not been completed.

Kind Regards  
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