

# Crofton Junior School



## Homework Policy

March 2019

## Rationale

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Crofton Junior School, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

At Crofton Junior School, we set weekly homework because:

- It informs parents/carers about their child's class work;
- It further stimulates enthusiasm for learning;
- It further develops and embeds learning;
- It provides the opportunity for parents/carers and their child to work together;
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline.

## Routines and Expectations

Homework at Crofton Junior School focuses mainly on developing the basic skills of **reading, spelling and times tables knowledge**. We focus on these three key areas, as we believe that:

- They are fundamental skills which underpin many aspects of English and maths and the wider curriculum;
- We as a school can build upon these within our day-to-day practice by providing opportunities to apply them across all areas of the curriculum.

In order to do this, it is expected that all children:

- Read a minimum of 3x per week and that this is recorded within each child's Reading Record Book;
- Complete the following set task on TTRockstars:
  - Year 3 - 10 minutes autumn & spring terms and 15 minutes summer term;
  - Year 4 – 15 minutes autumn term and 20 minutes spring and summer terms;
  - Years 5 & 6 – 20 minutes
- Complete the set task on The Spelling Shed.

All homework is set on a Friday. Reading must be completed by the following Friday and TTRockstars and Spelling Shed tasks by 10:00pm on Thursday.

We provide incentives and rewards on a weekly basis for completing homework. A raffle ticket is given for reading 3 times per week with an additional ticket given if this is exceeded. The winner of each weekly class raffle draw will be given the opportunity to choose a prize.

If tasks are not completed, each child will be required to do so in school. If the reading task has not been completed, the pupil will read for 10 minutes during break time on a Friday. If

TTRockstars or Spelling Shed tasks have not been completed, the pupil will do times tables and spelling activities for 20 minutes Friday or Monday lunch time.

As both TTRockstars and The Spelling Shed are online programmes, we will provide opportunities during the school week, but not in lesson time, for children who do not have access or are having difficulty. It is the child's responsibility to inform their class teacher if this is the case.

### **Additional Homework Tasks**

In addition to the on-going weekly tasks, each class will be given one creative task per year, which links to the theme/topic they are studying in class. The work produced will then be shared in the 'theme presentation session' which parents are invited to. For example, Year 5 pupils are asked to design and make a Viking shield at home for their Viking theme day and Year 6 pupils are given the task of designing and making a Greek amphitheatre as part of their Greek celebration day.

Year 6 children will also be provided with additional English and maths activities as part of a revision process in order to help them prepare for their End of Key Stage 2 SATs. In doing so, we are mindful not to overload the children, which can be counterproductive.

It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks. We will also not provide homework for children who are being taken out of school for term time holidays.

### **Equal Opportunities**

We have high expectations for all children in order to ensure that they are able to reach their full potential. Homework tasks will be modified appropriately in discussion with the SENCo, external professionals and parents in order to meet each pupil's needs.

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if deemed necessary by the school.

Date: March 2019

Review date: March 2021