

Homework Guide

Diptford C of E Primary School Updated Sept 2020

**Why have homework?**

This homework guide outlines what is expected of teachers, pupils and parents regarding homework. At Diptford, we feel that homework is an important element of children’s primary education. It encourages pupils to rehearse, reinforce or extend what they have learnt at school and to share their learning at home. Undertaking homework supports pupils in making good progress and prepares them to become independent learners. It also helps pupils to manage their own time effectively.

**When is homework set?**

In all year groups, homework should be set every Friday to be returned the following Friday. This allows weekdays and a weekend to complete the activities set. The expectation is that all homework is completed and returned on time.

**What will homework consist of?**

Homework should take between 20 minutes to an hour a week, depending on the task or age of pupils. Reading and spelling will be sent home weekly plus at least one other subject, including Maths, Science and/or Topic. Homework will be set through eSchools (for KS1/2) and Tapestry (for EYFS) online learning platforms.

**Reception (Dippers):**

Reception pupils are encouraged to share books with an adult regularly, building up to ‘little and often’ reading practice as appropriate for their stage. They will have key words and sounds to learn each week.

**Year 1 (Dippers):**

Reading: pupils are encouraged to read to an adult regularly. We suggest up to 5 times a week - little and often is best. Teachers will monitor how often pupils are reading at home and books will be changed, with adult support, every Monday and Thursday.

Spelling: Year 1 will bring home a weekly spelling list consisting of spelling patterns and common misconception words. It is important that they practice these at home. They should practice their spellings alongside Letterjoin cursive handwriting style. For more handwriting information visit: <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>

Maths: Year 1 pupils will explore numbers to 100, correct number formation and number bonds.

**Year 2 and 3 (Kingfishers):**

Reading: Year 2/3 are encouraged to read to an adult regularly. We suggest up to 5 times a week - little and often is best. Teachers will monitor how often pupils are reading at home and books are changed independently or with support where needed. Once pupils have graduated from the reading scheme, they will bring home Accelerated Reader books and will quiz in school.

Spelling: Y2/3 will bring home a weekly spelling list consisting of spelling patterns and common misconception words. It is important that they practice these at home. They should practice their spellings alongside Letterjoin cursive handwriting style. For more handwriting information visit: <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>

Maths: Year 2 should practice 2, 5 and 10 x tables (at least) progressing to 3, 4 and 8 x tables in Year 3. They can use Times Tables Rockstars or practice without the use of screens in any way that works - even singing! Pupils may be set a maths activity as well or instead, as appropriate.

**Year 4, 5 & 6 (Hawks):**

Reading: Y 4/5/6 are encouraged to read regularly. We suggest up to 5 times a week. Teachers will monitor how often pupils are reading at home and books are changed independently. Pupils will usually bring home an Accelerated Reader books and will quiz in school.

Spelling: Y4/5/6 will bring home a weekly spelling list consisting of spelling patterns and common misconception words. It is important that they practice these at home. They should practice their spellings alongside Letterjoin cursive handwriting style. For more handwriting information visit: <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>

Grammar and Punctuation: Pupils may also be set regular grammar and/or punctuation tasks.

Maths:

Times tables: Year 4 will practice all times tables and the related division facts (up to 12x12). Year 5 & 6 will work to increase speed and fluency. They can use Times Tables Rockstars or practice them without the use of screens in any way that works - even singing! Pupils may be set a maths activity as well or instead.

**Holiday Homework:**

Holiday homework will be set for ALL pupils 3 times a year. At the end of each term, pupils will be encouraged to learn about their new, upcoming topic in a creative way over the break. They will be able to present homework in any way they choose – maybe a painting, presentation, video, collage, photograph… These can be presented to their peers and celebrated with the introduction of the new topic.

**Checking:**

Homework will be checked and monitored by teachers and/or teaching assistants. Children will be given appropriate feedback regarding how well they have done and where (if) they need to improve in line with our feedback policy.

**Home support:**

Please listen to your child/ren read as often as possible, talking about the book, asking questions as you go. Parents are encouraged to guide and support children with their weekly homework tasks but should expect the child to work as independently as possible. Holiday homework, however, could be a joint project worked on together.

If there are any issues with homework, please speak to your child’s class teacher – you can also get in touch via eSchools/Tapestry. They will be happy to offer help or support as needed.