

## **Bentham Community Primary School**

### **Homework Policy**

#### **Aims of this policy:**

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

#### **Purpose of homework:**

- To consolidate and extend learning.
- To allow children to take ownership of, and responsibility for, their learning.
- To develop an effective partnership between school and home, giving parents an insight into their child's school work.
- To engage children in their school work outside of the classroom.
- To support children in developing confidence and self-discipline to be able to work independently, preparing them for secondary school.
- To ensure the needs of individuals are met.

#### **Types of Homework:**

- **Brain Builders:** A range of options will be included to meet different learning needs and styles to ensure that Brain Builders is inclusive. Brain Builders is shared and celebrated with both the child's teacher and their peers during a 'Brain Builders Gallery' where a record of its completion is kept by the class teacher. Parents support their child to choose their Brain Builders option and discuss with them how they want to complete it. When homework is consistently not completed, children will need to attend the lunchtime Brain Builders club. School rewards children who consistently complete their Brain Builders with an additional playtime. There is also 1 certificate awarded across school each week in Praise assembly for an outstanding Brain Builder.
- **Spellings:** Children in Y1-6 will have weekly spellings to learn. Children are to practise these words at home so that they are ready for the spelling test. Spellings need to be copied out at least 3 times in their yellow spelling books. If a child gets a low score in the test then the teacher will ask to see the practising in the yellow spelling book. If there is no evidence of this, children will need to practise these spellings at a playtime/lunchtime or at Brain Builders club. Children in Reception will have word bags to take home. School rewards children who have improved their spelling scores/worked hard in their spelling with effort stars or house points. Additionally 1

spelling rosette is awarded across school each week in Praise assembly.

- Reading: Children in YR-6 will have reading books that are linked to either the Oxford Reading Tree scheme or Accelerated Reader scheme. Children must share their reading/understanding of their reading with an adult before swapping their books. Reading should be recorded in children's reading records or diaries. Children in classes 4 and 5 are expected to regularly access Reading Plus at home also.
- Rapid Recall Facts: Children in YR-6 will be given a Rapid Recall Fact that they are tested on twice weekly. These support the children learning mental maths facts, including their times tables. Parents can support their children learning these facts at home.
- Times Table Rockstars: Children in years 2-6 have log ins for Times Table Rockstars so that they can practise their times tables online to support their learning in school.
- Some additional work may be sent home in Y6 to help children prepare for their SATs, such as Practise Papers. These will be set by the Y6 class teacher and organised within the class.

#### Setting homework:

Each class teacher will set a Brain Builder homework weekly. There will either be 2 or 3 subject choices which are linked to the learning the children have done in school. Below each choice, the teacher will give options about what they could choose to do. Children are to spend the suggested time completing their chosen option and recording it in their Brain Builder book. As long as the work links to the L.O, children have freedom to complete their Brain Builder however they choose. Class teachers will also be responsible for ensuring reading books are regularly changed, spellings are given out weekly and that children know their Rapid Recall Fact.

#### Time:

- Brain Builders: A reasonable amount of time, no more than 30 minutes, would ensure it is high quality work that is produced.
- Reading: Reading with an adult 3 times a week is expected to be recorded in children's reading records/diaries across school. Reading books should be swapped 2/3 times a week.

- Spelling and Rapid Recall Facts: These are practised as needed at home so that children are ready for their tests in school. As a minimum, spellings should be written out at least 3 times in the yellow spelling books.

#### The role of the parent:

It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance. It is also important for parents to recognise that it is the children's responsibility to complete the work. A letter explaining homework will be sent out to parents.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation:

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the homework policy is efficiently and effectively implanted within their class. This will be monitored by the Key Stage Leaders/Head teacher in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

Date updated: February 2020

Date to be reviewed: February 2022