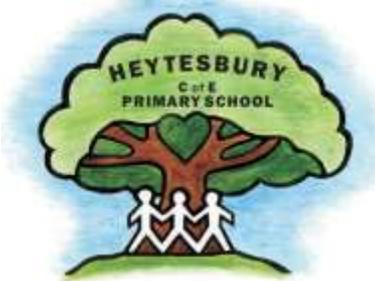


HEYTESBURY HOMEWORK POLICY

HEYTESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND VA PRIMARY SCHOOL



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MISSION STATEMENT

"Nurturing today's minds for tomorrow's world through our Christian values"

VISION STATEMENT

Heytesbury School strives to provide all children with a safe and secure learning environment. We set high standards and expectations to enable all children to do their best and achieve their full potential. A key feature of the school is our caring family atmosphere underpinned by our Church of England ethos.

At all times we offer encouragement and support. When needed, forgiveness, reconciliation, help and guidance is readily given. We want all children to establish a good foundation of knowledge and skills that, not only prepare them for the intellectual challenge presented by secondary school life, but also helps them to develop the social skills and attitudes that are needed in our rapidly changing world.

Our ethos is summed up by focussing on the following six Christian values:

Hope, Courage, Friendship, Forgiveness, Wisdom, Truthfulness

Through adhering to these values we will ensure that the school environment is a safe and caring place where our children can, share, consider and experience ethical enquiry in order to cultivate habits required for good moral conduct.

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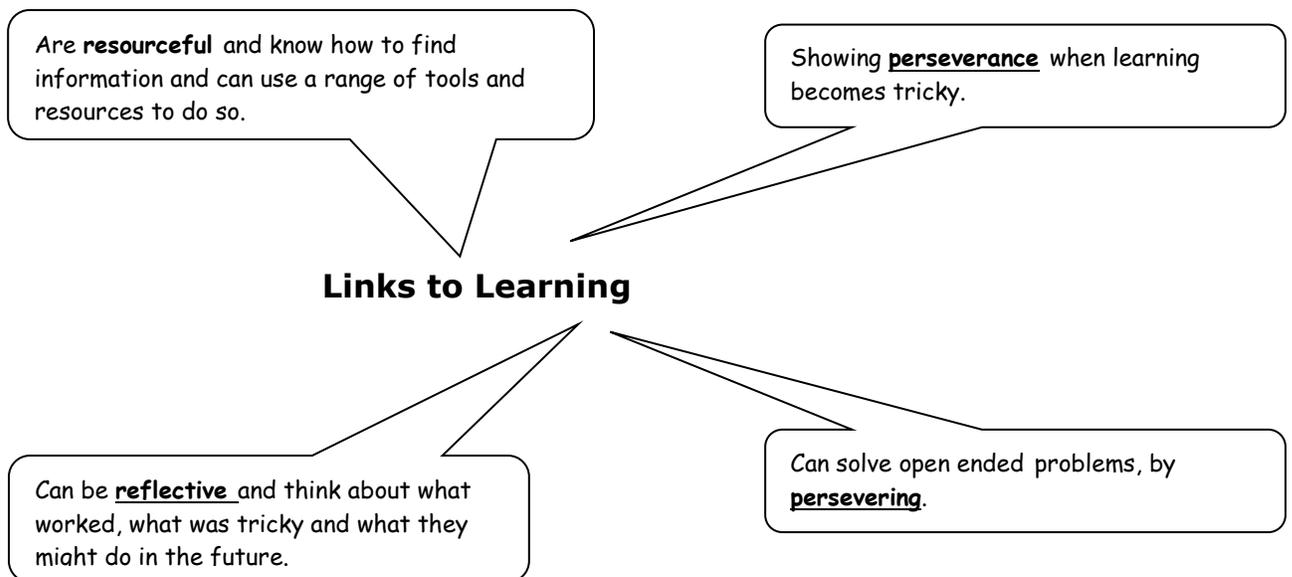
Written	September 2016
Next Review	September 2018

Aims of Homework:

- To encourage pupils to develop skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively on their own.
- To develop existing skills and understanding developed at school.
- To develop and sustain the involvement of parents and carer's in pupils' learning.
- To develop enjoyable homework that the children want to complete.

For Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children (FS2, Years 1 and 2) the main purpose of homework is to develop links with parents and to help involve them in their children's learning.

For Key Stage 2 children (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) there will increasingly be an opportunity for children to develop skills of independent learning. However, this should still be supported as necessary by parents and carers.



TYPE OF HOMEWORK

- Practising basic skills.
- Activities and research linked to children's current half-termly topics.
- Practical investigations and problem solving.
- Unfinished class-work.

Reading:

Every child should read nightly. During Year 2, many children begin to read independently and silently for short periods. However, parents should try to continue to listen to their children read and support their children's understanding. It is also a good idea to model good reading to children by sharing trickier books by reading to them, where possible.

Reading can include read library books, magazines, newspapers, etc. However, every child will be expected to have a fiction book 'on the go' at all times.

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children will continue to bring home books from a variety of schemes, as well as 'sharing' picture books.

Reading Records:

These books are to be used to record the following:

- Home and school reading activities.
- They are also a useful link between school and the home regarding any issues or to praise a child's effort or attainment.

Spelling: From Year 1 most pupils will begin to have a weekly list of words to learn to write. For younger pupils lists will be taken from 'key words', gradually progressing on to word families and topical lists as they get older.

Maths Passports:

These should be the key source of homework for the children.

Children will each have one or two 'Maths targets' they are working towards; for example 'AFRICAN PASSPORT' – DOUBLING NUMBERS UP TO 20. The expectation is that children will practice this skill using prepared sheets (from school) or games on the website or games which are sent home from school.

The Passports are for all children in the school, with targets based on their current ability in Numeracy. More details can be found on the website regarding the 'Maths Passports'.

They may be tested on their target, in school at any time. So the children are encouraged to spend a few minutes a night working towards their target.

THE AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK

We consider that most children at Heytesbury work very hard during the school day and therefore need time to rest and relax when they get home. Many pupils also regularly take part in after school activities and out of school activities which we feel are of immense value to their personal and social development.

As the year progresses, the level of homework expected for the Year 6 pupils will increase in preparation for secondary education. The staff and governors also value 'play' for all age groups as valid learning experience.

For these reasons the school declines to set pupils nightly homework but expects that they will all do:

- **Nightly reading activities** (Years R to 6 - 5 to 20 minutes)
- **Weekly spelling** (Years 1 to 6 - 5 - 10 minutes daily)
- **Maths Passports** (Years R – 2 Once or twice a week, for 5 minutes
Years 3 – 6 Three times a week, for 10 minutes)

< ----- End of Policy ----- >