



## Homework Policy Whole school and EYFS

The Head undertakes a formal annual review of this policy for the purpose of monitoring and of the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged, by no later than one year from the date shown below, or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

Signed: Dr Pamela Edmonds (Head)

Date reviewed: July 2026

Date of next review: July 2027

### Introduction

At Parsons Green Prep we recognise that homework is an integral part of a pupil's learning and an important link between home and school. For these reasons, homework will be set throughout the school, from Reception to Year 6, although naturally the nature of tasks and the time spent on them vary considerably depending on the age and aptitude of the pupil. We define homework as any 'work or task' that a pupil is set at school to do at home, whether formal or informal, and consider it to be an important part of every pupil's learning.

In Reception classes, informal homework tasks such as reading will be set as soon as appropriate for each pupil and parents are encouraged to work with their children and support them in these tasks. Homework incrementally increases from Year 1 through to Year 6.

### Aims

This policy aims to set out flexible guidelines for the types of homework appropriate at each stage of a pupil's education. It aims to establish a consistent and progressive plan for homework tasks throughout the school, whilst acknowledging that individual class teachers will need the flexibility to adapt it for particular pupils. It endorses the importance of a partnership between home and school right from the beginning of a pupil's school journeys and recognises that parents and teachers must work together to ensure that each pupil has the best possible learning opportunities.

### Reception (EYFS)

During the first term in Reception, children will take home phonics homework to consolidate the sounds they are learning each week. When they are ready, children will receive a daily reading book so that parents can read to their child at home. Parents are also encouraged to help their child practise the 45 key spelling words, which they will receive at the beginning of term.

In the spring term a homework folder is sent home. It comprises of three simple activities which should only take 5 to 10 minutes each to complete. These activities may include a handwriting task, maths or literacy activity, and topic-related tasks. There is a week to complete these tasks. Homework in Reception is an extension to concepts covered in class and helps reinforce and consolidate learning. It is completed in lead pencil but pictures may be coloured. Parents may write comments on the homework to inform the teacher about the length of time taken to complete the tasks and how their child coped with the level of work. In the summer term, weekly spellings will also be sent home.



### Year 1 – Year 2

Homework is given in a folder weekly. Homework must be handed in to the class teacher on the designated day so that the teacher can mark and replenish homework for the following week. If homework is not handed in on the correct day it may not be marked until the next week.

Each pupil in Year 1– Year 2 has a book bag to carry their homework to and from school in and also a Reading Record Book and homework diary. A pupil's Reading Record Book will develop into a record of all the books they have read from the reading scheme and plot their progress throughout the year.

Parents are encouraged to listen to children reading daily and record this in the Reading Record Book. It is important for young children to read and enjoy their books, with plenty of discussion about the pictures and the story, so that reading is established as a pleasurable activity. The Reading Record Book should be used to keep a regular record and comments made should be of encouragement when appropriate. If parents have any concerns about their child's reading they should contact the class teacher.

Year 1 and Year 2 children are given homework tasks that may be completed throughout the week. These consist of mathematics, spelling and topic work and the child should spend no more than 15 minutes per day/ evening completing. This obviously depends on the speed at which a child works; however, homework should not be a chore or become an issue within the household. If homework is difficult for a particular child and their family it should be kept to a minimum.

#### In summary:

**Reception:** Daily reading, literacy, maths and topic task

**Year 1:** Daily reading, spellings, weekly maths and literacy

**Year 2:** Daily reading, spellings, weekly maths and literacy

### Year 3 – Year 6

In Year 3 – Year 6 parents are asked to continue their support by encouraging good homework habits and helping their children find a time when their homework can be completed without distractions. Parents should encourage their child to be more independent when doing their homework, with the emphasis on supporting rather than helping. If the child has been supported by parents or another adult, this should be noted with an 'S' on the page.

In Year 3 – Year 6, our policy is to set more detailed homework tasks. The number and length of these homework tasks builds up gradually towards the end of Year 6 and the time they are expected to spend completing the homework increases accordingly.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 receive homework on a Friday and return it the following Wednesday. If this routine is not suitable for a family, alterations may be agreed with the class teacher and SLT informed.

#### In summary:

**Year 3:** Weekly spellings, times tables, literacy and maths - approximately 15 - 25 minutes per subject

**Year 4:** Weekly spellings, times tables, literacy and maths - approximately 25 - 40 minutes per subject. Teachers may occasionally set Non-Verbal and Verbal reasoning.

**Year 5 and 6:** Weekly spellings, times tables, literacy and maths - approximately 40– 60 minutes per subject. Teachers may occasionally set Non-Verbal and Verbal reasoning.



### **Atom and Century**

Pupils in Years 3-6 may also be given questions and/or work to complete using the online platforms, Atom Learning and/or Century.

### **Organisation**

If homework is not completed satisfactorily without good reason, the teacher concerned may note this and arrange a suitable time for the homework to be repeated should it be felt necessary for the pupil's learning.

If homework is regularly not completed satisfactorily, the class teacher will contact the pupil's parents and discuss strategies to improve and support homework performance. A note of this may also be made on their termly report.

### **Holiday homework or extra work**

No compulsory holiday homework is set at Parsons Green Prep. However, optional work is sent home in Years 5-6 in the lead up to 11+ examinations. Only in exceptional circumstances with agreement from parents, class teacher and the Director for Teaching and Learning is homework set during holidays. Pupils should read, practise their number facts, discuss current affairs with their family and rest to be ready to return to school for a term of productive learning.

### **General**

If a pupil is absent from school because of illness, the school does not send work home on the assumption that the child is not well enough to do school work.

If parents take their child out of school for an unauthorised absence, homework will not be given to cover the time missed.