



Homework Policy

2021

Rationale

Homework, and the responsibilities that come alongside completing work at home, is an important part of our school curriculum at Spire. Completing homework by a set time encourages our young people to take responsibility for their own learning and time management skills.

Intentions

At Spire Junior School, we set homework for the following reasons:

- To give the children chance to consolidate and practise skills which they have learnt in school, particularly in English and Maths.
- To encourage self-discipline and organisational skills.
- To allow parents, carers and other adults at home to engage with what our children are learning at school, in turn offering them a direct supportive role.

Homework at Spire Guidance

It is our firm belief at Spire Junior School that children need and deserve enough time at home to enjoy time with their families, seeing their friends and taking part in hobbies of their choosing. Therefore, school staff will stick to the following guidance when setting homework, to ensure that the amount of work set is fair and proportionate for the child's age and ability.

Reading	It is important that all children foster a love of reading from a young age, and that children leave their primary education being able to read fluently. <u>Therefore, children are asked to read to an adult at home at least three times a week, and record this in their diary.</u>
Spelling	Children will receive a set of spellings to learn each week. The number of spellings will vary depending on each child's age and spelling ability. Each class will have their spelling test on a Friday. Children who have not practised their spellings will be expected to practise in their break time to ensure they reach their full potential.
Times-Table Rock Star	All of our children have access to a Times Table Rock Star account. Logging on to this website will allow your child to access a range of competitions and games to help them learn and practise their times-tables. https://trockstars.com/
Ed Shed	All of our children have access to an Ed Shed account. Logging on to this website will allow your child to access a range of competitions and games to help them learn and practise their maths skills, spelling rules, and grammar understanding. https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/login

Year 6 Homework

In preparation for their transition to secondary school, Year 6 will receive additional weekly homework to this. Homework will be set on a Friday, to be returned by the following Thursday. This will include a piece of Maths homework and a piece of English homework. This may be a paper copy or set online via Seesaw (our home-learning platform).

The Role of our Parents and Carers

All of our children deserve the best support that both the school staff and adults at home can give. Therefore, we ask that all our parents read and sign our Home – School Agreement when joining Spire Junior School (either upon arrival in Year 3, or whenever they join us at a later date). This agreement confirms that our parents are willing to offer support with homework, help their children find a time and space to complete work, spend time completing activities with them where appropriate and praise their children for their successes with home learning. Of course, staff will always extend understanding if there are occasions when homework is late or overdue - everyone is human - but we do ask that this is rectified as soon as possible and that reasons are communicated with the class teacher as soon as possible.

The Role of our School Staff

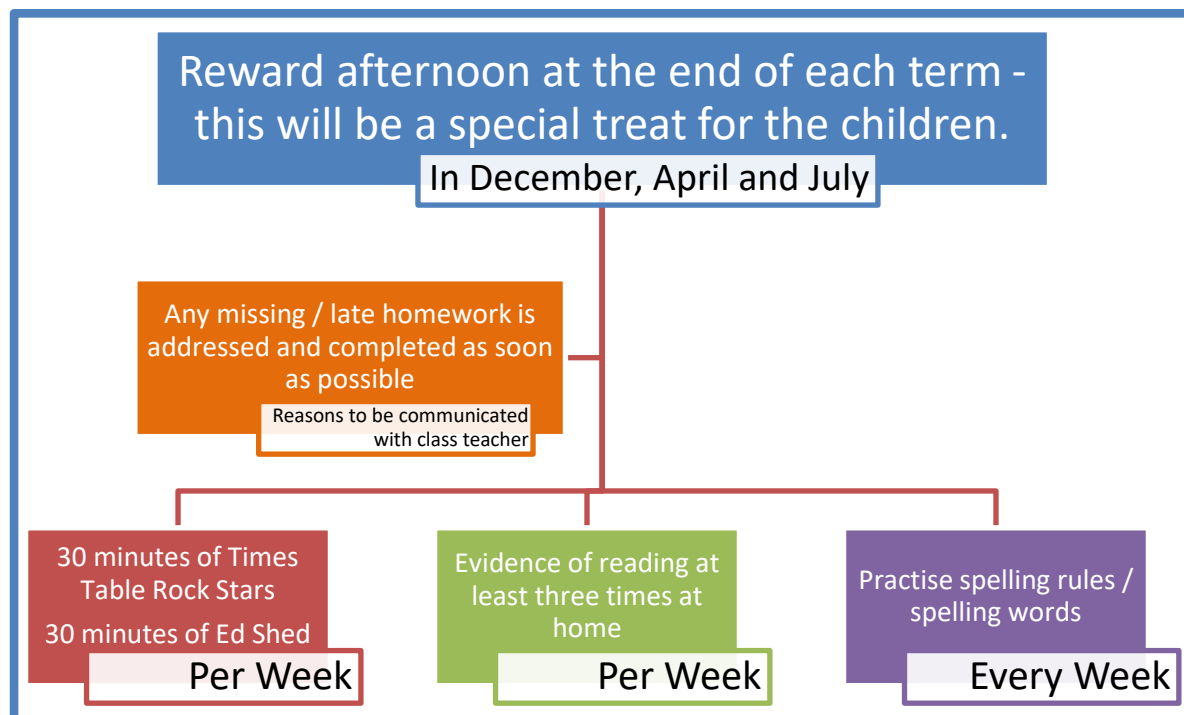
The role of our staff in school is to support, guide and reward children for their hard work and effort at home. The online learning activities (on Times Table Rock Stars and Ed Shed) will be automatically set in a way to allow teachers to track who has been online in the last seven days. Reading which has been recorded within a child's reading record will also be monitored and praised by staff. We will endeavour to set and track each class's homework on the same day each week to help keep consistency in school and at home. However, we do appreciate your understanding when there are changes to timetables such as INSET days, school trips, staff absences or other timetable changes which lead to changes in this routine.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

Where appropriate, teachers will set differentiated homework to allow all children to work at a level which is appropriate for their ability. If your child's teacher feels this would be for the best for your child, these changes will be made in consultation with you. If appropriate, Mrs Barnett will also be consulted as our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. Similarly, if you have concerns over the level of difficulty of your child's homework, please speak to your class teacher as your first port of call.

Monitoring of Homework

As stated above, 'completing homework by a set time encourages our young people to take responsibility for their own learning and time management skills'. Therefore, we have adopted a reward system in order to encourage our children to take ownership of their home learning. Please see the diagram below which details this system.



Reward afternoons will be decided in consultation with Mr Shaw and the class teachers for each year group. Any children not taking part in the homework reward will remain in class, completing their usual lessons with an adult.

Review:

This policy will be reviewed alongside the Headteacher and Governors in September 2023.