

# The Dove Federation

## Homework Policy

Last updated: February 2022

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## Statement of intent

**The Dove Federation** is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which pupils are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling education.

We believe that homework plays an important part in education and the benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to ensuring homework is well-balanced across the school.

This Homework Policy was developed in consultation with staff members, parents and pupils, and with the full agreement of the governing board.

## Aims

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practise and a deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

Signed by:

_____	Headteacher	Date:	_____
_____	Chair of governors	Date:	_____

## 1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant statutory and good practice guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2019) 'Ways to reduce workload in your school(s)'
- Ofsted (2019) 'School inspection handbook'
- Ofsted (2019) 'School inspection handbook – section 8'

## 2. Responsibilities

2.1. The **headteacher** and **governing board** are responsible for:

- Frequently checking the policy's compliance with statutory and good practice requirements.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing the policy every **two years** and making appropriate updates as required.
- Discussing with staff the extent to which this policy is being implemented.
- Meeting with parents as appropriate.
- Providing parents with information about homework.
- Informing new parents about the Homework Policy.

2.2. Teachers are responsible for:

- Planning and setting up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
- Providing an explanation of homework tasks and ensuring that all pupils understand what they have to do.
- Ensuring all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Setting homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities.
- Monitoring homework regularly and making sure pupils are completing it.
- Marking homework and giving feedback to pupils.
- Communicating with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Being available to parents and pupils for a discussion about homework.
- Setting homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensuring homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of pupils with disabilities are considered.

- Rewarding quality work and praising pupils who regularly complete homework.

#### 2.3. Parents are responsible for:

- Supporting and encouraging their child with regards to completing homework.
- Becoming involved in their child's homework and encouraging their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
- Making sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Providing suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Praising their child and celebrating achievements with regards to their homework.
- Informing teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operating with the school to find a solution.
- Keeping the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and ability to complete homework effectively.
- Encouraging their child to discuss homework and feedback from teachers.

#### 2.4. Pupils are responsible for:

- Taking responsibility for their own learning and submitting completed work in a timely manner.
- Having a positive approach towards homework.
- Putting the same effort into homework as class work.
- Making sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seeking clarification if required.

### **3. Our approach to homework**

#### **Reception (EYFS)**

Pupils in reception will be set weekly reading and sound recognition homework.

#### **Years 1-5**

Pupils will be set their homework on the SeeSaw app. You should have received a login for your child/ren from their class teacher. If you have not received them please contact them through the school office.

Pupils will be set Maths and English homework on alternate weeks. Maths homework will be set on the Smash Maths app which is a retrieval program. This program allows pupils to revisit prior learning and provides staff with feedback so that they can plan follow up activities in class. Login details for Smash Maths will be provided by your child's class teacher.

Pupils will also be set weekly spelling and times table homework alongside regularly reading at home.

### **Year 6**

Pupils will be set their homework on the SeeSaw app. You should have received a login for your child/ren from their class teacher. If you have not received them please contact them through the school office.

Pupils will be set Maths and English homework each week. Maths homework will be set on the Smash Maths app which is a retrieval program. This program allows pupils to revisit prior learning and provides staff with feedback so that they can plan follow up activities in class. Login details for Smash Maths will be provided by your child's class teacher.

Pupils will also be set weekly spelling and times table homework alongside regularly reading at home.

The schools expectation for all pupils is that they read at home at least 3 times a week.

## **4. Absences**

- 4.1. If a pupil is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods – pupils should be well enough to undertake any work supplied.
- 4.2. There may be exceptions to 4.1 and the **classroom teacher** will decide whether homework should be set on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.3. If a pupil is absent for a long period of time, e.g. with a broken arm, the teacher and the parents of the pupil will agree on what should be done and how much help should be provided.

## **5. Pupils who fail to complete homework**

- 5.1. All pupils are expected to complete homework on time.
- 5.2. Teachers keep records of pupils completing homework which are regularly checked.
- 5.3. If pupils fail to complete homework, teachers contact parents to find out why.

## **6. Pupils with SEND**

- 6.1. A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the pupil's parents and the **SENCO**.
- 6.2. The school recognises that pupils with SEND may require specific tasks to be set, as outlined in their **individual education plans**.

- 6.3. While pupils with SEND may benefit from differentiated tasks separate from the homework received by other pupils, it is important that they also complete as much standard homework as possible.

## **7. Equal Opportunities**

- 7.1. The school is committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background.
- 7.2. All pupils have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

## **8. Monitoring and review**

- 8.1. This policy is reviewed every **two** years by the **headteacher**.
- 8.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is **February 2024**.

## Appendix 1: Homework Agreement Form

[Home-School Agreements are no longer mandatory. As such, it is at your school's discretion whether or not to issue an agreement and/or this form, ensuring that a balance is struck between creating additional workload for teachers and ensuring pupils' academic progression through increased accountability and parental engagement.]

Please complete this form and return it to the school. It will be filed and is an important of our Home-School Agreement.

Pupil's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and support the Homework Policy and recognise its importance to my child's educational progress and development.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I will do my homework every week.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Pupil)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_