



Homework Policy

Document Control

Document Reference:	Homework Policy
Owner:	Wirksworth Junior School
Author:	I.Webb
Issue Date:	January 2026
Review Due:	September 2029
Statutory Yes/No	No

Document History			
Issue	Date	Purpose	Author
1	Jan 19	New policy written	I.Webb
2	Sept 22	Updated policy	I.Webb
3	Jan 26	Updated policy	I.Webb

Approval		
Meeting	Date	Chair
T & L	12.11.2022	Helen Brocklehurst
FGM	21.01.2026	Wilma Hyde

At Wirksworth Junior School we provide all children with homework to enable them to practise skills and learning they have already done in school. Sometimes the aim is to repeat something done in class as a practise exercise. Other times, the homework will ask children to apply their learning to a new context. Children will not be given work to do at home that they have not learned in school unless it is a project which asks them to find out about something new. For example, to do their own project about the Romans.

Our Aims

We aim to provide opportunities for parents/carers to work alongside their child or children to support their learning in school. At Wirksworth Junior School we aim to work together with parents to support them to get the best out of our children so they can reach their full potential, and make every moment count. We encourage parents to talk to teachers about any homework concerns and seek help from teachers when needed.

School's expectations

To give out regular homework to all pupils.

Government guidelines **are** 1.5 hours homework a week for Year 3 and 4,

Up to 30 minutes every day for year 5/6.

Parents' expectations

To provide a calm environment for pupils to complete homework and encourage pupils to complete homework on time.

Pupil expectations

To complete homework on time, to the best of their ability with neat presentation and handwriting.

Children who deliberately do not attempt to do homework (and this does not include when family emergencies occur), will be required to remain inside during their own time to complete their work. Allowing one child to opt out of doing homework whilst everyone else is expected to complete it causes bad feeling amongst a class. We therefore make it very clear that we expect everyone to be treated equally and all children are required to complete homework.

Spellings: as a school we use the No Nonsense Spelling scheme, which runs under the premise that we need to teach spelling rules and learn what letters go together. Spelling tests are not used regularly because pupils may learn the spellings for the test however not put these into practise in their writing. On the school website, the

long-term plan for No Nonsense can be found, so homework can be reinforced at home.

Year 3 and year 4

Reading: To read their school book or another book every single day at home for around ten to twenty minutes to an adult, with discussions about the text.

Discussions could centre on:

- How the character is feeling.
- What they predict will happen next.
- Why the character has taken certain actions.
- The way we read punctuation as well as words, how bold or italic words are read differently.
- Looking for how advanced punctuation is used. For example, speech marks, brackets, commas, apostrophes etc.

It is very important that adults discuss these things with their child as they are not likely to notice them on their own.

Writing/Topic: In Years 3 and 4 all children will be expected to complete up to a 30-minute English activity a week. They **may** receive pieces of writing to practise at home, **spelling practice**, grammar exercises, research, science investigation or a handwriting task. These will be elements of what they are learning at school. Writing entire stories, poems or reports would benefit your child enormously but is not usually the kind of practise that children in these age groups are given for homework. Occasionally, pupils will be given longer topic-based tasks which will take the place of the writing task, this will be no longer than a two-week activity.

Maths: By year 3, all children need to continue to practise their 2x, 5x and 10x tables but to also learn their 3x, 4x, 6x, 7x, 8x and 9x tables.

By year 4, all children need to consolidate their times tables and improve the speed of their recall and learn what the corresponding division facts are. For example, $7 \times 6 = 42$; $6 \times 7 = 42$ and $42 \div 7 = 6$; $42 \div 6 = 7$.

In school, we use Timetable Rockstars to practise these and this can also be used at home to consolidate their learning. All pupils will have their own logins.

Pupils will be given maths homework every week. Pupils' **maths homework will be** a paper-based activity. This will take no longer than 20 minutes to complete.

Year 5 and Year 6

Many of the aspects of year 5 and 6's homework is in line with the homework for years 3 to 4 but it requires much more depth of study. Children will receive homework covering other areas of the curriculum and their work will begin to require more concentration and self-application.

Reading should increase to include regular sustained periods so that children develop the habit of 'getting into a good book'. (Reading a few pages every few days inhibits this). Although fluent readers are likely to be reading independently by this age, parents/carers still need to hear them to read out loud to develop their fluency in harder text types. Developing readers will still need reading support on a daily basis. Pupils will be expected to read 5 times a week for at least twenty minutes

Writing/Topic: Children in Year 5 and 6 *may* be given more pieces of sustained writing to plan or complete at home, however this will take no longer than 20 minutes. Children of this age should know what features make a good story, letter, report, newspaper article, **spelling, grammar tasks and exercises** etc. Tasks could be based on science, spelling, grammar, punctuation, humanities, RE etc. Occasionally, pupils *may* be given longer topic-based tasks which will take the place of the writing task, this will be no longer than a two-week activity.

In maths, children will receive support work for the learning they are doing in class. Children will also receive practise test papers near the time of their SATs to help them become familiar with the test format. By year 5 and year 6, it is expected that all children should have fluent recall of their times tables. Children forget them if they are not used, so a regular (daily if possible) quick and short tables quiz would help your child retain what they have learned.

Again, pupils will be given maths homework every week. Pupils' maths homework **would be a paper-based** activity. This will take no longer than 20 minutes to complete.