



Homework Guidelines

Key Stages 1/2



Article 3: All adults should always do what is best children

Article 28: The right to education

Article 29: The right to education which tries to develop each child's personality and abilities as much as possible and encourages them to respect other people's rights and values and to respect the environment.

Written: March 2021

Homework Guidelines

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Green Gates Academy, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Why give homework?

- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It takes advantage of the home environment and resources and the chance for some one-to-one adult time;
- It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables, reading and spelling
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Homework at Green Gates Academy

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, Green Gates is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning. We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice. We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves; children are not punished if they fail to complete the work.

At Green Gates we believe that the role of homework should be to provide children with a framework for continuing their learning beyond the classroom and to support each learner's progress towards achieving his or her full potential, at their own level.

We aim to:

- Identify key areas of learning which are essential to develop pupils' overall curriculum knowledge. For example, fluency in reading.
- personalise the homework provision in order that all children, regardless of ability or other barriers to learning, are able to access an inclusive framework;

- engage other family members in order to inform them of their child's learning and progress;
- promote children's independence and ability to manage and organise their own time and resources with the support of both school and family;
- encourage children to develop a sense of ownership and responsibility for learning.

In order to achieve our objectives;

- We strive to ensure that homework activities are skills-based and reflective of the developing curriculum;
- help children to learn, practise and extend new skills, knowledge and understanding;
- are matched to children's abilities and are inclusive;
- provide structured opportunities for parental involvement, support and communication.

Parents/Carers as Partners

At Green Gates we value the important role that parents/carers play as co-educators of their children and we are very keen for them to support and help their children with homework activities.

Where appropriate, children will be given work based on practising number facts, reading and spelling as these are tasks which can be carried out with the support of parents/carers or independently.

How much Homework?

It is our policy to tailor homework to the needs of individual children. So homework tasks will be identified by the child's class teacher and set accordingly. Our teachers may send specific tasks home to support the learning of pupils, if for example a child shows a particular interest in a topic. Again, this will be discussed with parents.

It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks. The exception will be where the parent and teacher agree extra work would be beneficial.

If you take holiday during term-time, something we actively discourage, parents may not request work from the teacher. We suggest that parents organise a holiday diary.

Our policy was based on the needs of the individual pupils' at Green Gates and with the research conducted by the Education Endowment Foundation (see [here](#))