



## NORLAND PLACE SCHOOL

### Homework Guidelines (from Staff/ Parents' Handbook)

<b>Reviewed: April 2021</b>	<b>Next Review Date: September 2022</b>
<b>Responsibility: LB</b>	
<b>Location (s): SMT/Staff Drive, Staff/Parents Handbook, Website, Staff Room Policy Folder</b>	

Homework is intended to reinforce work done in lessons and to encourage independent study skills. By gradually increasing the amount given as the children progress through the school, we aim to develop and support their ability to use their initiative and organise themselves to complete their work in the allocated time. Parents should encourage their children to finish tasks set within the time allowed, however extra time may be appropriate at your discretion.

Homework diaries are used from Year 3 onwards. The children are asked to write their homework in the diary under the relevant day. The diaries can also be used for communication between parents and teachers. In Prep School homework is usually uploaded to Google Classroom, to facilitate ease of access for pupils and parents.

*As a guide, the weekly homework should be:*

**Reception** Reading books, weekly phonics sounds and key words are taken home each week, starting once children have settled after first couple of weeks of autumn term. During the summer term the children take home one literacy homework and one numeracy homework each week, as well as their reading books.

**Year 1** Reading books are taken home daily and swapped when completed. A spelling list is given weekly, concentrating on the phonic word families, which are applied to sentences for their writing homework, alongside a weekly maths activity. During the summer term, an additional writing or comprehension task is also set.

**Year 2** Reading books taken home nightly and spellings once a week. One handwriting homework set each week, along with a phonics activity, maths calculations or maths problem solving activities. Unfinished work may also be sent home when necessary. Homework increases throughout the year, in preparation for Year 3.

**Year 3** Four homework sessions/week (each of 30 minutes) based on English, maths, science or topic work. Spellings set once a week and times tables practice (to work towards 'times tables' badges), as well as reading books taken home as appropriate. Boys taking exams have differentiated weekend homework in the autumn term, in preparation for the examinations.

**Year 4-6** As indicated by the homework timetable: daily VR/English and mathematics/NVR, as well as one science and one humanities/French homework session per week.

In **Year 4** the homework sessions are 40 minutes; this increases to 45 minutes/session in **Year 5** and to 60 minutes/session in **Year 6**.

**Please note: In cases where a child is absent from school due to illness, we do not send work home, but encourage as much reading as possible in its place. Any work missed will be made up on return to school.**

#### **Internet Use for Homework**

There may be occasions when older children are asked to research a topic by whatever means they might have at their disposal. This could include using the internet, although we never make this compulsory.

#### **Holiday Homework**

Reception-Year 2 children are given an optional homework pack. Reading, handwriting, revision of spellings, maths (number bonds) and tables practice (Year 2) are encouraged.

Year 2 boys, sitting examinations in Year 3, are set differentiated holiday homework for the summer preceding their start in Year 3. This is to ensure that they start the academic year on the best possible footing in advance of their January exams. Year 2 children not sitting exams are also set holiday homework for the summer preceding their start to Year 3. This will focus on maintaining the English and maths skills required for the transition to Prep School.

Year 3 boys taking exams are set differentiated holiday homework in the run-up to their January examinations. Optional homework is set during the spring holiday. Post exams these children will be set holiday homework during the spring and summer holidays.

Year 3 children not sitting exams are set homework during the Christmas, spring and summer holidays.

In Years 4-6, compulsory holiday homework is set in English, maths and optional homework is set in science. We encourage children to mark and correct their work, whenever possible, so that they learn from their mistakes.

As a general rule, all children are also expected to read widely, revise spellings and practise number bonds/times tables, as appropriate.