

# Homework Policy



**RIVERSIDE BRIDGE SCHOOL**  
'EXCELLENCE FOR ALL'



**Ratified by Governors: November 2022**  
**To be reviewed: September 2023**

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*Riverside Bridge School*

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Review Frequency:	Annually
Date of ratification:	November 2022
Date next review due:	September 2023
Scope of Policy:	This policy applies to all staff, students, governors and volunteers at Riverside Bridge School

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Riverside Bridge School recognises that homework can be a valuable element of learning for some of our pupils. It can raise self-esteem as well as supporting work completed in the classroom.
- 1.2 However, it is not appropriate to overload pupils with a very rigid and strict policy of homework as this can be counterproductive.
- 1.3 Should parents feel that their child requires homework the following considerations need to be discussed with the class teacher.
- 1.4 The following considerations will be made before homework is issued:
  - The purpose of the homework
  - Is the homework 'doable'
  - Is the homework relevant and realistic

## 2.0 THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

- 2.1 Any homework set by the class teacher must have a clear purpose.
- 2.2 Homework should not be used for learning which is new, but to enhance work undertaken in the classroom.
- 2.3 Homework is not given to simply occupy the pupils' time but to let pupils practice what they have learned.

## 3.0 HOMEWORK IS DOABLE

- 3.1 Homework set must be doable in order to help pupils feel positive about themselves as learners.
- 3.2 Homework should need some but not significant help, if significant help is required to complete homework this can be de-motivating to pupils

## 4.0 HOMEWORK IS RELEVANT AND REALISTIC

- 4.1 Pupils should only be set homework which is relevant to their current learning
- 4.2 The expectations within the homework must be realistic to the pupils needs and abilities

## 5.0 TYPES OF HOMEWORK

- 5.1 At Riverside Bridge School homework can take place in many forms, not always formal pieces of homework.
- 5.2 Parents/Carers are encouraged to **read** to their child each day. A short session to promote picture/word recognition and good communication will be time well spent and could develop a love for books and of reading.
- 5.3 Parents/Carers are encouraged to sit and **talk** to their child about their school day to encourage language development and communication.
- 5.4 School will be able to support parents/carers with techniques and strategies which can be used in the home to promote **communication** skills on request.
- 5.5 When applicable and when the pupil visits new settings, goes on family outings or holidays parents/carers are encouraged to support their child in creating a **scrap book or diary** of their trip which can be used to further communication skills and the ability to recall real-life events. Photographs and souvenirs are always a good means by which speaking, listening, reading and writing can be promoted.
- 5.6 The school website will have the current school curriculum topic. This information can be used to support decisions on outings to undertake, what to watch on TV, or what games, toys and books to buy.
- 5.7 The school website has links to other websites where learning activities can be worked on.
- 5.8 Where appropriate, our teachers can offer on request additional tasks such as **worksheets** to be completed at home. This work must be within the pupil's current level of attainment and reinforce skills already acquired but not yet mastered. Parents should remember that any homework provided in this format must be returned to school for marking and monitoring.

- 5.9 Where appropriate, pupils who have a reading book are allowed to take it home each evening to share with their families. Please note in the home/school communication diary when a child reads at home and a simple comment on how the pupil engages with the story and reads noting any difficulties faced.
- 5.10 **Independent life skills** are an opportunity that parents/carers should take every opportunity to promote and experience. The opportunity to practice self-care, travel competence and domestic activities such as personal hygiene routines, travelling on public transport at both peak/off peak times, making snacks and domestic chores such as assisting to make a bed provide pupils with the chance of achieving some independent living skills for their future. Riverside Bridge School believe that it is this kind of homework that will have a significant and long lasting impact upon the lives of the children and for this reason is the most valuable and worthwhile of all.