Homework Policy 2026-2027

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 South Molton Community Primary School we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Hearing that parents do not value homework or that their education only happens in schools sends the wrong message to our young people. We ask that all parents support their children with homework and reinforce the importance of it to show children the importance of a good work ethic.

Building a strong work ethic will allow a person to train themselves so that hard work is almost automatic. Forming good habits such as focusing, staying motivated and finishing tasks immediately helps to create a good work ethic that will stand them in good stead for the future.

Our aims of providing homework are to:

- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility.
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account.
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them.
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children.
- Extend and support learning.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership.
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences.
- Reinforces work completed in school.
- Prepare Year Six children for the secondary phase of education.

Homework is set on a **Friday** via Teams and is 'handed in' on the following Friday. One day's leeway will be given regarding the deadline for handing in work. Unfinished or missing work will need to be completed during lunchtimes during homework club. If a child does not complete their homework on more than three occasions then concerns will be discussed with parents.

A Homework Club will be provided for those children who are unable to complete their homework at home electronically during lunchtime using the school Chromebooks. If this is something that a child needs to attend, we ask that parents inform the school office so arrangements can be made.

As parents have been informed, homework will not be provided on paper, and children need to access their homework online in order to reduce paper usage in line with our environmental values. If children cannot access their homework online, they are able to join the homework club mentioned above.

The information below gives the expected agreed amount of homework for children.

Reception- Reading at least three times a week alongside practise of the phonics sounds and words sent home. One piece of optional homework a week to be completed with parents.

Years 1 and 2- Reading at least three times a week. Weekly spellings practise. One piece of homework a week to be completed with parents which will include a short Maths and English activity based on the learning from the previous week.

Years 3 and 4- Reading at least three times a week, encouraging sustained independent reading at home. One piece of homework a week to be completed with parents which will include a Maths and English activity based on the learning from the previous week. Weekly spellings will also be sent home to practise.

Years 5 and 6- Reading at least three times a week, encouraging sustained independent reading at home. One piece of homework a week which children should complete independently whilst supervised by a parent which will include a Maths and English activity based on the learning from the previous week. By the end of year 6, we would expect children to complete their homework in addition to reading and spelling. Weekly spellings will also be sent home to practise.

Optional Challenges: In KS1 and 2 there are optional online activities such as Times Tables Rockstars, Numbots, EdShed and Purple Mash which children can access outside of school hours if they feel they can do more at home. Many of these adapt to the children's level and offer opportunities for challenge.

We encourage teachers to focus homework on tasks that follow on or build up to work completed in school and that children can access for their ability level. We try to minimise project based work which calls for a large amount of support from parents. In our survey parents preferred 'fluency activities' such as learning maths facts and spellings and worksheets.

Teachers will look over completed homework via Teams once work has been handed in.

You will also find additional resources on your child's Team page to support learning at home.

The governing body will review the policy annually.