



Homework (Prep School) Policy

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Description: This document gives an overview of how homework is set at Lingfield College Prep and should be read in conjunction with the various subject policies.

OUR SCHOOL AIMS

- ❖ To be a safe and trusted foundation for our pupils to achieve their individual academic, social and creative potential.
- ❖ To cultivate the skills, knowledge, self-awareness and academic credentials our pupils will need to confidently meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world.
- ❖ To instil and nurture a strong sense of social responsibility, integrity and environmental awareness so our pupils positively contribute to a sustainable and just society.
- ❖ To guide each pupil in the discovery, delight and development of their individual gifts, talents and character.
- ❖ To create and sustain an inclusive and contemporary school culture, where diversity, difference and individuality are recognised and celebrated.
- ❖ To prioritise physical and emotional wellbeing across every facet of our school community.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At Lingfield Prep we create an atmosphere in which each child can learn to become well-motivated and self-disciplined in their approach to learning activities. This can be enhanced by the active support and involvement of parents. By setting regular homework, we emphasise the partnership between school and home. Homework undertaken in an appropriate environment contributes significantly to a child's achievement and progress. By establishing a structured approach to homework from Reception onwards, important foundations are laid which help students cope with increasing work demands, not only as they progress through the Prep School, but also in their transition to the Senior School.

2.0 ORGANISATION

- 2.1 **Nursery** We encourage children to continue learning at home and support this through home-learning activities that a child has shown interest during their day at Nursery. When a child is ready to do so, they will be encouraged to choose a Library book once a week to take home, building upon their love for reading, communication, language, and comprehension.



- 2.2 **Reception** Optional homework will consist of short, practical, topic-based activities, supporting the development of language. Additionally, children will take 2 reading books home a week closely matched to their phonics level which they will be expected to read for decoding, prosody, comprehension as well as fluency. They will also take home 'sharing' books which they can change as often as needed.
- 2.3 **Year 1** As in reception, children will take 2 reading books home a week closely matched to their phonics level which they will be expected to read for decoding, prosody, comprehension as well as fluency. They will also take home 'sharing' books which they can change as often as needed. After a settling in period, children will be set weekly spellings to learn at home in preparation for an informal test and one weekly task which will comprise of a 20 minute English, Maths/ Mathematics or topic-based activity.
- 2.4 **Years 2- 6** A timetable for homework for Years 2-6 is included at the end of this policy, which may vary slightly when special events occur in the school calendar. Homework for Years 3 will not exceed 2 hours per week, and for Year 4 will not exceed 2.5 hours per week; and homework for Years 5 and 6 will not exceed 45 minutes and 60 minutes per evening respectively. No homework is set for Year 5 & 6 on Wednesdays.
- 2.5 At all times children are given very clear guidelines regarding the expectations for work to be undertaken to ensure they complete the task effectively.

3.0 HOMEWORK BOOKS

- 4.0 Reading homework will be recorded in a Reading Record Book by the teaching staff, the parents or the child, depending on the year group. Children in Years 5 and 6 will record their reading via an online Reading Record.
- 5.0 In Years 1-4 Homework is sent home on Friday. There will be a transition stage in Year 5 whereby pupils will move from using Homework diaries to using Firefly. By the start of Year 6 all homework will be on Firefly, although pupils may have a diary, if they wish. This will prepare pupils for the senior school, where all homework in every subject will be set on Firefly.

6.0 MARKING

All written homework will be marked either by the child in class or by an adult. Where homework is marked by the child, the teacher will check the work afterwards.

7.0 MATHLETICS

It is school policy that Maths homework is set on the computer package Mathletics by all class teachers once per fortnight. Classes compete against each other to be the class to achieve the most Mathletics certificates. The Mathletics Trophy is awarded in assembly on a half termly basis. The school provides a Mathletics club once per week on a Wednesday morning from 8.00-8.30am to allow any pupil to do their homework online if they have problems completing it at home.

8.0 RECORDER PRACTICE YEAR 2 - 5

- 8.1 In Music lessons, children are taught to read music, and they learn basic music theory through playing the recorder. This is part of our music curriculum from the Summer Term of Year 2 until the end of Year 5.



- 8.2 Children should play their recorders regularly in order to make progress. A general ‘rule of thumb’ is once or twice a day, at least 5 days a week. In Year 2 these sessions should last for 2 minutes (The same amount of time as you brush your teeth!). To keep things memorable this will be increased to 3 minutes in Year 3, 4 minutes in Year 4 and 5 minutes in Year 5.
- 8.3 Regular short amounts are more beneficial than a long session once a week, although we would prefer the children to practise for one long session per week than to have no sessions at all, e.g. at least 10-20 minutes per week in Year 2 etc.

9.0 HOMEWORK CLUB

A supervised Homework Club is offered to children in Years 4, 5 and 6 every day after school from 3.45 to 5.00pm.

10.0 FAMILY FOCUS

As a family focused school, we aim to have one week per term where the only homework set is spellings and reading to allow families to spend quality time together at the weekend without worrying about the pressures of homework. In line with this ethos, during the holidays, children will be encouraged to complete:

- Regular Reading (both on their own and to an adult)
- Spellings (the next lot of usual weekly spellings)
- Mathematics
- Times Tables
- No projects or other formal homework activities will be set in Years 1-5; however, when children complete Year 6 they will be expected to complete a transition homework in Maths that is set by the senior school.

Last reviewed December 2023

Next review due December 2024



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other additional activities spread throughout the week
Reception	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	
Year 1	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins Spellings are given out on Thursday for a test the following Thursday after October Half Term.	Reading 10 mins Mathletics, Topic or English homework	
Year 2	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Readings 10 mins Times Tables (Spring term onwards – test a week later) Spelling test	Reading 10 mins Alternate weeks Mathletics. Spellings are given out Friday for a test the following Thursday. Maths, English, Science or Topic, relating to weekly classroom learning focus.	Spellings + Times Tables + Recorders (Term 3)
Year 3	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Two pieces of 30 min homework – either Maths, English, Science or Topic, given out on the Friday to be handed in on the following Thursday unless advised otherwise. Spellings are given out by Friday for a test the following Friday..	Spellings + Times Tables + Recorders. I
Year 4	Read daily where possible- adult comments to be recorded at least three times a week. (3 x 10 mins) Revise/learn times tables and corresponding division facts regularly Practise spellings for Thursday and spend minimum of 20 mins learning the spelling and meaning.				Two pieces of 30 min homework – either Maths, English, Science or Topic, given out on the Friday to be handed in on the following Wednesday. Spellings are given out by Thursday for a test the following Thursday.	Spellings + Times Tables + occasionally a short piece of topic or other work + Recorders.
Year 5	Spellings Reading 15 mins	Maths (x1 – either/or) - Video - Worksheet - Mathletics (30 mins, Monday) MFL Reading 15 mins	Reading 15 minute-	English (x1 – either/or) - Reading Comprehension - SPaG (30 mins, Monday) Reading 15 mins	Times tables Reading 15 mins MFL homework (for the following week).	Spelling practise Times tables practise and TTRockstars. Humanities/Science 40 mins (Mon week) Occasional One Word - Once every half term.
Year 6	Reading 15 mins English - comprehension or SPAG (40 mins, Thursday)	Reading 15 mins MFL 20 mins (to be handed in during the following week's lesson) Maths – x2 activities (40 mins each, Monday)	Reading 15 mins	Reading 15 mins	Reading 15 mins	Spelling practise Times tables practise and TTRockstars. Humanities/Science 40 mins (Fri week) Occasional One Word - Once every half term.