



## 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 foster intellectual curiosity and a love of learning.*
- ❖ *To achieve high academic standards in a supportive but disciplined atmosphere.*
- ❖ *To equip pupils with the skills and knowledge to meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world.*
- ❖ *To instill an enthusiasm in interests and opportunities beyond the classroom.*
- ❖ *To support pupils' development of a sense of justice and an awareness of their rights and responsibilities as global citizens.*

## 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** 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 phonic letter sounds, simple three letter words and the reading books used in Nursery. Pupils may also be given writing and maths activities as appropriate.
- 2.2 **Reception** Optional homework will consist of short, practical, topic based activities, supporting the development of language, as well as compulsory daily reading books shared between parents and children.
- 2.3 **Year 1** A sufficient number of reading books are provided each week to be shared between children and parents on a daily basis. Spellings are sent home, after a settling in period, to be learnt and practised for an informal weekly test. Other occasional pieces of topic based activities are included during the year.



- 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**

- 3.1 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 Year 5 & 6 who are avid readers may be asked to move on to keeping a record of the books that they have read rather than each individual reading homework. This will be done at the discretion of the teacher.
- 3.2 From Year 3 upwards, written homework tasks may be sent home in a separate homework book and Years 5 and 6 will also have a homework diary where all homework is recorded. Parents are expected to view this diary at least weekly and a weekly signature is required to demonstrate that this has occurred.

### **4.0 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.

### **5.0 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 8.00-8.40am to allow any pupil to do their homework online if they have problems completing it at home.

### **6.0 RECORDER PRACTICE YEAR 2 - 5**

- 6.1 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.
- 6.2 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.
- 6.3 Regular short amounts is 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.



## **7.0 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.

## **8.0 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.

Last reviewed July 2018

Next review due July 2019



	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Other additional activities spread throughout the week</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	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	
<b>Year 2</b>	Reading 10 mins Spellings are given out on Monday for a test the following Monday + Sentences –VCOP	Reading 10 mins	Reading 10 mins	Readings 10 mins Times Tables (Spring term onwards – test a week later)	Reading 10 mins Alternate weeks Mathletics or Maths Activity Homework for the following Wed	Spellings + Times Tables + Recorders
<b>Year 3</b>	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 Wednesday unless advised otherwise.  Spellings are given out by Friday for a test the following Thursday.	Spellings + Times Tables + Recorders.
<b>Year 4</b>	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 Wednesday (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 Friday for a test the following Friday.	Spellings + Times Tables + occasionally a short piece of topic or other work + Recorders.
<b>Year 5</b>	English SPaG 30 mins (for Wed)  Reading 15 mins	Maths even weeks 30 mins (for Thurs)  Mathletics odd weeks (for Mon)  Reading 15 mins	-	English or occasional topic research project 30 mins (for Mon)  Reading 15 mins	Times tables and spellings list are given out on Monday for a test the following Monday.  Reading 30 mins	Spellings +Times Tables + Reading + Recorders. In addition, mental maths tasks will be set as appropriate.



<b>Year 6</b>	Reading 15 mins Spellings are given out on Monday for a test the following Monday. English 30 mins for Tues Spanish or German for 1 week later (every other week)	Reading 15 mins Maths 30 mins for Wednesday French for 1 week later (every other week)	-	Reading 15 mins	Reading 30 mins Maths 30 mins for Monday English 30 mins for Mon	Spellings + Mental Maths Skills + MFL  Humanities/Science 30 mins for 1 week later
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