



# Waverley School

## Homework – A Guide for Parents

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This guide outlines the Waverley School policy on homework. Please do not hesitate to talk with your child's teacher if you have any questions.

### **The Purpose of Homework**

The key objectives of homework are:

1. to encourage pupils to develop the practice of independent study;
2. to develop perseverance and self-discipline;
3. to allow practice, where it is needed, of skills learned in the classroom;
4. to permit more ground to be covered and more rapid progress to be made;
5. to open up areas of study and to make possible the use of materials and sources of information that are not accessible in the classroom;
6. to involve parents (and other adults) in pupils' work.

The purpose of homework will change as children get older. For children in the early stages of their school career the emphasis is on developing a partnership with parents/carers and involving them actively in the children's learning. As children get older homework provides an opportunity for them to develop skills of independent learning and increasingly becomes the main purpose.

### **Range of Homework Activities**

Many different activities may be set as homework. These will depend upon the age and ability of the pupils. Activities can include:

- reading
- maths games
- learning multiplication tables and/or spellings
- finding out information
- preparing oral presentations
- writing up a science experiment
- completion of a work sheet associated with classroom study
- comprehension exercises



This is not an exhaustive or exclusive list of the activities which may be set as homework.

### **Time Allocation**

Homework will normally be set according to the following programme:

Reception:	Monday – Friday	10 minutes a night
Year 1:	Monday – Friday	15 minutes a night
Year 2:	Monday – Friday	20 minutes a night
Year 3:	Monday – Friday	30 minutes a night
Year 4:	Monday – Friday	30 minutes a night
Year 5:	Monday – Friday	45 minutes a night
Year 6:	Monday – Friday	60 minutes a night

Holiday homework will be set as appropriate to the age and needs of the children.

The times specified should be regarded as the maximum time to be spent on homework, especially for older children. If homework regularly takes children much longer than the allotted time parents are encouraged to discuss this with the class teacher.

### **The role of parents and carers in supporting pupils**

In general terms parents and carers should:

- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework - alone or, more often for younger children, together with an adult;
- make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning;
- encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework.