



Homework Policy

2023-2024

The Thomas Hall School approach to homework.

At Thomas Hall School, we value homework to aid the partnership between parents, pupils and staff; creating a community of learners. Learning is enhanced when knowledge and skills can be accessed in a differing range of scenarios where pupils understand the context and relevance - Homework is another opportunity for this.

The three key principles to our homework framework are:

- Support pupils feel confident in new learning.
- Building a dialogue of learning between home and school;
- Teaching children good habits about valuing and being responsible for their learning.

Primary:

Daily reading:

For all pupils, being fluent readers is important for pupils to engage with and enjoy learning across the curriculum. We expect pupils to read each day of the week. On Monday, the teacher will check if pupils read on Friday. On Tuesday-Friday, teachers will check that pupils read last night. Parents/carers are expected to sign the reading record to validate that the pupil has read their reading book from school. This is expected for each entry in the reading diary. The school encourages parents/carers to listen to their child read and include a comment where possible.

Each week, teachers will quiz pupils on key spellings and times tables to monitor progress. This will allow teachers to set appropriate homework each week.

Special or additional needs:

For pupils with specific needs, a bespoke agreement regarding homework will be made between the SENDco, Teacher and Parent/Carer.

Not all homework is done at home. For some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school.

Key Stage 1

During the first term in Reception, children will take home phonics homework to consolidate the sounds they are learning each week.

When they are ready, children will receive a daily reading book so that parents can read to their child at home.

Parents are also encouraged to help their child practise the 45 key spelling words, which they will receive at the beginning of term.

Reception

Term 1 – Daily RWI reading and weekly word/sound cards.

Term 2 - Daily RWI reading and word pots/weekly spellings.

Term 3 - Daily RWI reading and weekly spellings play one written task per week.

Year 1: RWI reading homework. Weekly phonics/spellings, alternate maths or literacy homework

Year 2: RWI or daily reading. Weekly spellings, alternate maths and literacy homework

Key Stage 2

In KS2 it is essential for daily reading to continue as children develop the fluency necessary for learning reading comprehension skills. We would expect to see evidence of reading documented in a reading record three times a week. This will be logged centrally by teachers.

Class teachers will set homework additional activities consisting of:

Year 3 - Weekly spellings, times tables/number bonds related to Key Instant Recall Facts.

Year 4 - Weekly spellings, weekly times tables practice.

Year 5 - Weekly spellings and times tables/maths homework depending on the needs of the child.

Year 6 – Weekly spellings and maths homework. In addition, children will be set work which alternates between literacy and comprehension.

Teachers across Key Stage 2 will set at least one Topic Project over the year, based on wider curriculum, which encourages the children to explore and research wider outside of the topic being taught.

Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4

Upper School

In some cases, homework will follow a flipped learning approach, where pupils prepare for upcoming lessons. For example, pupils could be assigned the “homework” of watching video lectures and reading any materials relevant to the next day’s class.

Many subjects use SENECA to pre-populate homework tasks for pupils to access. This is monitored by staff and parents can also support their child with learning by logging into the parental portal.

All secondary homework will be shared with pupils and parents through the Arbor app.

YG	English	Maths	Science	All other subjects
7	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per fortnight
8	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per fortnight
9	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per week set by teacher	X1 piece per fortnight

10	All GCSE subjects – x1 piece per week
11	All GCSE subjects – x1 piece per week

Special or additional needs:

For pupils with specific needs, a bespoke agreement regarding homework will be made between the SENDco, Teacher and Parent/Carer.

Not all homework is done at home. For some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, the school will run optional homework clubs during identified times within the school day.