

HOMEWORK

North Lanarkshire Council and Pentland School is firmly committed to raising the attainment of all pupils and recognises the significant contribution homework can make to the personal, social and academic success of the individual pupil.

Homework provides an opportunity for parent and child to share purposeful learning opportunities in the supportive atmosphere of the home. It can, therefore, become a vehicle for developing and enhancing partnership and raising pupil attainment.

The Benefits of Homework

Our Homework Policy can bring about benefits for both pupils and carers.

For pupils, these may include:

- a sense of responsibility for their own learning;
- opportunities for additional learning time;
- improved pupils self-confidence and motivation; and
- the formations of study skills.

For parents and carers these may include:

- sharing in their child's learning;
- showing an interest in their child's education;
- monitoring their child's progress.

Types of Homework will include:

- reinforcement of class work.
- activities related to personal & social development.
- preparation for a presentation.
- practice reading.
- practice recognising letters numbers or words.
- practice spelling and handwriting.
- practice writing sentences.
- practice maths skills e.g. learning tables.
- find out information about topics they are doing at school.
- complete unfinished class work.

Amount of Homework

- Homework will normally be given from the second week of each term. It will be given from a Monday to a Thursday. Pupils at the early stage of reading may also have homework on a Friday.

- The amount of homework will differ from one individual to another. This will be determined according to a pupil's age and ability. The time spent on homework will increase gradually from Primary 1 onwards reaching about 30 minutes per evening in Primary 7.

How will I know what the homework is?

- Your child will be given a homework notebook in which their homework will be written. You or the teacher will be able to write any messages in this book.

Expectations

It is the expectation that all pupils in Pentland School will have an opportunity to do homework, especially those aspiring to mainstream school attendance. Parents will however be consulted about their expectations regarding homework and pupils will only be given homework within a context that will promote a positive attitude toward learning. It follows therefore, that it may not be appropriate for some pupils to undertake additional work within the home environment.

How Can Parents/Carers Help?

You can help by:-

Showing an interest in your child's homework.

- Listening to reading and talking about the pictures in a book.
- Stressing to your child the importance of homework.
- Encouraging your child to write neatly.
- Signing the homework notebook and making any comments that are necessary.
- Letting us know if homework is causing a problem for you or your child.

Difficulties in doing homework

- If a parent/carer is encountering significant and ongoing difficulty with their child's willingness to do homework, please contact the school to discuss the situation. (As stated earlier, pupils will only be given homework within a context that will promote a positive attitude to learning. It may be necessary to stop providing homework if such difficulties remain).
- If a pupil is encountering difficulty with an aspect of their homework then please record this in the Homework Diary. No sanctions will follow.

We believe that homework is a crucial aspect of learning and unless we have received word of real difficulties (phone call, comment in diary) a pupil will be required to do any unfinished homework during their available free time while in school. If a pupil does not do or complete all homework on more than one occasion in a term, parents/carers will be contacted