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Policy for

Homework



Prepared by:	Adopted by Schools
CEO/Principal	<b>Autumn 2024</b>

## **Contents:**

### [Statement of intent](#)

1. [Roles and responsibilities](#)
2. [The school's approach to homework](#)
3. [Absences](#)
4. [Pupils who fail to complete homework](#)
5. [Marking homework](#)
6. [Pupils with SEND](#)
7. [Equal opportunities](#)
8. [Monitoring and review](#)

## Statement of intent

All Aspire Educational Trust policies are written to support our schools and communities. We do this by ensuring they are always in line with our Colleague Values:



Applying these values to everything we do means always acting with integrity, in the interests of others, being honest, open and transparent and putting the safety of our children first.

This policy applies to **Ash Grove Academy**.

Ash Grove Academy is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward-thinking and safe learning environment in which pupils are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling education.

We believe that homework plays an important part in education and the benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to ensuring homework is well-balanced across the school.

## Aims

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study at an age-appropriate level.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences by giving pupils the opportunity to further practise and revise the skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.

## 1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant statutory and good practice guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2019) 'Ways to reduce workload in your school(s)'
- Ofsted (2024) 'School inspection handbook'
- Ofsted (2024) 'School monitoring handbook'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Marking and Feedback Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Parent Code of Conduct
- Behaviour Policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Policy
- Attendance and Absence Policy

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The principal and governing board will be responsible for:

- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy.
- Reviewing this policy annually and making appropriate updates as required.
- Discussing with staff the extent to which this policy is being implemented.
- Providing parents with information about homework.
- Informing new parents about this policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of inclusivity and accessibility of homework.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their children access the homework and support them with completing it.

## 3. The school's approach to homework

Ash Grove Academy understands that setting, marking and providing feedback on homework is a large contributor to the workload of teachers; therefore, teachers will ensure that homework is only set to positively impact pupils' progress.

Prior to homework being set, teachers will ask themselves, 'Why am I setting this homework?' and 'How will this homework be useful to the pupil?' If the answers to these questions do not reflect a positive impact on pupils' learning, teachers will use their professional judgement and decide whether the homework is necessary.

Ash Grove's approach to homework is outlined in this policy.

Children are regularly reminded of what is expected of them with regards to homework.

All topics and units of work being covered in each year group can be found on the school's website under ['Our Learning' / 'Ash Grove Curriculum'](#).

Pupils' homework activity will be designed to take between 30 – 90 mins across the week, depending on the age of the pupil. The amount of homework set for pupils will vary as they progress through their education and will be matched to their learning in class. Homework for children in Year 1 to Year 6 can be found using the additional tabs at the side of each [class page](#) on the school website.

Teachers may, on occasion, set extra homework for the whole class if they deem it beneficial.

The table below shows a summary of weekly homework set across school:

\* **Reading every night.** This is the **single most important thing** that you can do with your child, even when they become independent readers in KS2. It will improve their ability to access all areas of the school curriculum, and increase their chances of achieving well in academic outcomes. **We recommend 10-15 mins for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, and 20-30 mins for children in Years 3-6.**

- Accessing phonically decodable / fluency ebooks using Collins Ebooks logins – these are provided by your child's class teacher
- Reading class texts (KS2)
- Reading library books – reading for pleasure

\* **Phonics or spelling activity** Depending on the age and reading stage of your child, this activity will provide additional practise of the learning already completed in class.

\* **Maths activity** This activity provides additional practise of the learning already completed in class, with a particular focus on the quick recall of times tables facts at an age-appropriate level.

\* **Oracy activity** This activity aims to develop listening, speaking or presentation skills. This may include a focus on developing new or subject-specific vocabulary.

#### 4. Absences

If a pupil is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will not supply work for these periods – pupils should be well enough to undertake any work supplied.

There may be exceptions to the above and the classroom teacher will decide whether homework should be set on a case-by-case basis.

If a pupil is absent for a long period of time, the teacher and the parents of the pupil will agree on what should be done and how much help should be provided.

Absences when homework is set and due will be managed in line with the school's Attendance and Absence Policy.

#### 5. Pupils with SEND

A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, and this may be done in consultation with the pupil's parents and the SENDCo as appropriate.

Where appropriate, the school will set adjusted or specific tasks for pupils with SEND as outlined in their individual support or education plans.

While pupils with SEND may benefit from differentiated tasks separate from the homework received by other pupils, they will also complete as much standard homework as possible.

Pupils with SEND will be supported in accordance with the school's SEND Policy.

## **6. Equal opportunities**

The school will ensure that it provides the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, sex, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background.

All pupils will have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

## **7. Monitoring and review**

Any updates to this policy will be shared with parents, pupils and staff.

