



Homework

This document outlines how homework is delivered at Knockhall Primary School. It will be reviewed inline with the outcome of any parent survey which takes place, usually annually.

Whilst we offer plenty of homework options, when family life is busy, we only ask that your child reads every day. All other homework options are in addition and at the family's discretion. Please do not add any additional stress onto family life. Always chat to your child's class teacher if you would like support.

- At the beginning of the academic year or as your child starts with us, they will receive a bookmark that has any login details needed for websites that we use to deliver our homework offer.
- Our extensive homework offer supports your child with their reading and their mathematical knowledge.
- We know that children who can read fluently are more likely to succeed in all areas of their learning. Reading is the most important skill for life which is why we focus on reading every day as part of the homework expectations for all our students.
- Ensuring that your child knows their times tables is a fundamental part of being able to use maths in everyday life, from using money to telling the time. Times tables enable your child to be able to use maths quickly without the use of technology. Our hope is that children from Year 1 access our times table package as often as possible.

Type of homework	Year group	How often
Reading	All	Daily for 20mins
Phonics	Nursery, Reception and Year 1	Daily for 5mins
Reading Plus	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6	3xweek for 10 mins
Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)	Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6	3xweek for 10 mins
Magma Maths	Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6	1x fortnight
Topic Work (Showbie)	All year groups	6 times a year

Reading

We would like all children to read for at least 20mins every day. In the Early Years, Year 1 and 2 reading should take place with an adult. This can take place before bedtime as a calming activity, or during bathtime. As your child's reading ability progresses, they will begin to read to themselves. Your child's class teacher will be able to discuss when this will take place if needed.

Please support your child by ensuring that their reading book/bag is brought into school every day so that we can ensure that books are changed regularly.

Phonics

To support children's reading they need to have good phonetical knowledge. We use Little Wandle Letters and Sounds as our Phonic programme. In Nursery, Reception and further up the school if needed, we will send home phonic cards for you to practice sounds and words with your child. Please practice these cards as often as possible.

Daily Phonic sessions in Early Years and KS1 will enable the class teacher to monitor your child's progress.

Reading Plus

Children in Years 3 and above will have access to our Reading Plus website which supports children's ability to understand what they are reading. The website will also support the increase your child's reading speed. Children access this 3 times a week in school, and we would like them to access this at home as often as possible.

Class teachers will access the website to monitor each child's usage and to track progress.

Times Tables

From Year 1 we use Timetables Rockstars (TTRS) to support your child to learn their times tables. The website supports your child by celebrating correct answers using an avatar which can be dressed in certain clothes, hair styles etc as your child progresses. We would like your child to use TTRS as often as possible but at least 3 times a week.

The class teacher has access to the website and will monitor its use and any progress made.

Magma Maths

We use a website called Magma Maths in school which enables us to set work using the White Rose Maths scheme. Work is set on here for some of our maths lessons in school but additionally, your child will have a piece of maths homework set every 2 weeks.

This will be marked by the class teacher.

Topic Work

We use topics to teach your child about the world around them through history, geography and science. We link art and design technology to the topic work to create a wholistic understanding. The topic changes every short term. Topic information can be found on our school website. During each short term your child's class teacher will share an activity with the class to be completed at home. This will be shared with you through short note home. The activity may be craft based and may focus on Art/ DT or through researching a particular part of the topic.

Once completed, we ask for children to bring their piece of work into school. A photograph of the piece of work will be added to your child's Showbie account and will form part of their topic work.

It is important to remember that children work hard throughout their school day and may come home tired, hungry and in need of a rest. Please build homework activities into your family's schedule gradually and in a way that supports all of you. We have put together some helpful ideas below that could help you to create a good homework routine whilst ensuring that your families wellbeing is supported.

Supporting your child with their homework and overall wellbeing involves a combination of practical strategies, emotional support, and fostering a positive learning environment. Here are some tips:

1. Create a Positive Homework Environment

- **Dedicated Space:** Set up a quiet, well-lit area for homework that is free from distractions.
- **Routine:** Establish a consistent homework routine, including a set time each day.
- **Supplies:** Ensure that all necessary supplies (pens, pencils, erasers, paper) are readily available.

2. Encourage a Growth Mindset

- **Praise Effort, Not Just Results:** Focus on the effort your child puts in rather than just the outcomes. This helps build resilience and a love for learning.
- **Embrace Challenges:** Teach your child that challenges are opportunities to learn and grow.

3. Break Tasks into Manageable Chunks

- **Small Steps:** Break down homework into smaller, manageable parts to prevent your child from feeling overwhelmed.
- **Regular Breaks:** Encourage short breaks during homework time to maintain focus and prevent burnout.

4. Provide Emotional Support

- **Be Available:** Let your child know that you are available to help but encourage them to try solving problems independently first.
- **Listen and Empathise:** If your child is frustrated or anxious about homework, listen to their concerns and reassure them.

5. Balance Homework with Play

- **Physical Activity:** Ensure that your child has time for physical play, which is essential for their physical and mental wellbeing.
- **Creative Activities:** Encourage hobbies and creative play to help your child develop a well-rounded skill set.

6. Communicate with Teachers

- **Stay Informed:** Regularly check in with your child's teacher to understand homework expectations and any areas where your child may need extra support.
- **Seek Help Early:** If your child is struggling, don't hesitate to ask the teacher for additional resources or support.

7. Encourage Social Connections

- **Study Groups:** If appropriate, consider organising study sessions with classmates to make homework more social and enjoyable.
- **Friendships:** Support your child in maintaining healthy friendships, which are crucial for emotional wellbeing.

8. Teach Time Management Skills

- **Use a Planner:** Help your child use a simple planner or checklist to keep track of homework assignments and deadlines.
- **Prioritise Tasks:** Teach your child to prioritise tasks, focusing on the most important or difficult assignments first.

9. Model Positive Behaviour

- **Show Interest:** Demonstrate your interest in your child's learning by asking about what they are studying and showing enthusiasm for their progress.
- **Set an Example:** Model good work habits by reading or working on your tasks during homework time.

10. Encourage Mindfulness and Relaxation

- **Mindfulness Exercises:** Introduce simple mindfulness exercises, like deep breathing or meditation, to help your child manage stress.
- **Relaxation Time:** Ensure that your child has time to relax and unwind, especially after completing homework.

11. Monitor Screen Time

- **Balanced Use:** Ensure that screen time is balanced with other activities and limit the use of devices during homework time.
- **Educational Apps:** Utilise educational apps that can support learning in a fun, interactive way.

By integrating these strategies, you can support your child's academic progress while also promoting their overall wellbeing.