



Bottesford Schools Federation Homework Policy

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1. Rationale

At Bottesford Schools Federation, we believe homework should support and reinforce learning without creating unnecessary pressure. Homework provides opportunities for pupils to practise and consolidate knowledge and skills already taught in class, while encouraging independence and positive learning habits.

2. Aims

- To reinforce and consolidate classroom learning
- To promote independence and responsibility
- To encourage regular reading and fluency
- To support key skills including spelling and times tables
- To foster positive home–school partnerships

We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the fullest only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

3. Weekly Homework (Years EYFS–5)

- Homework is based on previously taught learning and should be completed independently.
- Homework is optional.
- Homework sheets are sent home each Friday.
- Completed homework can be returned Monday to Thursday the following week.

4. Year 6 Homework

Year 6 pupils use SATs preparation books with explanations and practice questions to support assessment readiness and transition to secondary school.

Year 6 homework is not optional as we need to prepare children in readiness for secondary school.

5. Reading at Home

Reading is the most important skill parents/carers can support their child with. We always share the mantra “the more we read the more we learn”.

- Pupils should read with an adult at least three times per week.
- Reading must be recorded in reading records and checked weekly.

Reading records could include:

- Date
- Book/pages read
- Who heard them read
- Comments (including praise or support)
- Notes on unfamiliar vocabulary

6. Spelling

- Spellings follow the National Curriculum.
- Termly spelling lists are shared.
- Pupils are expected to apply spelling in their writing.

7. Times Tables

Key stage 2 children are encouraged to engage with Times Table Rock Stars at home to support with multiplication fluency. In Key stage 2 times table heat maps (from Times Tables Rock Stars) are shared each term to identify strengths and next steps.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

Pupils: Engage with homework and read regularly.

Parents/Carers: Support reading and sign records.

Teachers: Provide clear, relevant tasks and monitor engagement.

9. Equal opportunities & additional needs

- The homework sheet may suggest ways to adapt the tasks so to challenge or extend the learners
- We endeavour to adapt any tasks set so that all children can contribute in a positive way
- Support plans for children with special educational needs will provide further activities and tasks that will support their specific needs. Homework and how parents can support at home will be discussed at termly SEND meetings.
- We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our pupils and their families, and we appreciate the enrichment that this brings.

10. Conclusion

Our approach is supportive, flexible and meaningful, helping pupils develop confidence, independence and a love of learning beyond the classroom.