



Homework Policy

Aims:

At RHS, we value the work that we do in the classroom to support your child's educational journey. As part of reinforcing that work and supporting a deeper understanding of the subjects covered, RHS sets homework for the children that consolidates, stretches and deepens their learning.

We will set homework that is meaningful and purposeful to your children as well as being engaging and simple to manage. We do not wish to add an administrative burden to parents, nor is homework supposed to be a fraught experience that adds to the stress of children and families.

To that end, homework will be mostly online, making use of websites and apps such as [Times Table Rockstars](#) and [Century Tech](#). These will be relatively autonomous and the children should be able to manage their own workloads through these services.

Homework at RHS also entails the promotion of reading at home whereby parents will listen to their children reading for approximately 10-15 minutes a day and record this into the Home-School Diary on the relevant page. It further includes the learning of key spellings as set out in the Statutory Spelling Lists and the National Curriculum.

Government Guidelines:

Schools are encouraged to plan home learning carefully alongside learning that children do at school, and to ensure that all activities are appropriate for individual children.

Here are some guidelines to give you an idea of how much time your child should be spending on home learning, and how you can help them. The emphasis is on how home learning helps your child to learn, rather than on whether it takes a certain amount of time. For example, some children will work quicker than others and get more done in less time.

The rough guidelines for primary school children are:

- Reception: up to one hour per week,
- Years 1 and 2: one hour per week.
- Years 3 and 4: 1.5 hours per week.
- Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes per day

Homework at RHS:

Homework at RHS will be divided into the following categories:

Daily Reading (EYFS-Year 6): every child will read to someone at home for 10-15 minutes every day with the outcome recorded into the relevant date in the Home-School Diary. This will need to be signed by the relevant adult and should include some plot details, character actions, opinion about what happened etc. This will be checked every day by the class teacher or other assigned adult and countersigned by them.

Spellings (Years 1-6): every child will receive a spelling list based on our spelling stairs that match the relevant statutory spelling list and taught spelling patterns for their year group as set out in the National Curriculum. These spelling stairs will be written into sentences by the children as part of their practice and this could take the form of writing a definition or using them correctly in context. This will be done every week and a test will be held the following week with the results collected by the class teacher and also recorded by the children into their Home-School Diary with any wrong spellings recorded accurately too. These spellings will be written into their homework books and the tests will be recorded in their spelling books.

English & Maths (Years 2-6): every child will be set homework in both English and Maths according to their need on Century. These “nuggets” will be set by the teacher to reflect prior learning throughout the week or unit and will be set every Friday due the following Friday. Often, this will take the form of a set of nuggets assigned to the whole class, but children with additional needs or SEND will be set differentiated tasks more suitable to their needs, but within the broad subject area covered in class e.g. if fractions were taught in Maths in Year 5, a child with additional needs or gaps in understanding might be set a fractions nugget based on work from an earlier year group. The amount of overall nuggets will vary week-to-week, but it will be approximately in the region of 3-7 per week. This will scale up the school as older year groups will be expected to manage more work to reflect the realities of secondary school.

Multiplication (Years 3 & 4 only): every child will be expected to log on daily to Times Table Rockstars and practise their times tables as part of their preparation for the Multiplication Check at the end of Year 4. Teachers will monitor practice times and will also use methods of testing such as the “99 Club” to ensure that children are practising for themselves. Pupils in Years 5 & 6 will still have access to the site and their logins will be maintained, but it will be something they can do independently in their own time.

Science (Years 2-6): every child will be set homework in Science at the end of each half-term that directly correlates to the unit of Science they will have been taught that half-term. The nuggets will be taken from Century and will include a mix of subject consolidation as well as opportunities for practical work to be done at home.

Sanctions:

If there is a persistent pattern of failing to read at home, sign the Home-School Diary or complete homework online, parents will be contacted by the class teacher in the first instance and then by phase leaders and senior leaders. Sanctions for older children may be applied if teachers feel that homework is persistently not completed, or completed to a poor standard.

What we will do to support children and families:

At RHS, we acknowledge that it can be difficult sometimes to get children to sit down and focus on their homework and to carve out time for reading and support in busy schedules. To this end, we have several avenues of support for parents and children:

- If you have concerns about the ability of your child to manage their homework or the suitability of the tasks being set, the first port of call must be your child's class teacher and they will make reasonable adjustments for your child to ensure that they can access the curriculum at home.
- Children will be set work that reflects the learning they have done in school.
- The school will value homework and celebrate achievement through the use of praise and postcards in celebration assemblies to encourage and support homework.
- The school runs a homework club which will act as a calm and caring environment in which children can access their online work and have the opportunity to discuss their work with an adult if they are unsure.

What you can do to support your child:

- Create a calm, tidy space at home (if possible) for your child to work.
- Set clear expectations for the time to be spent on their homework to ensure it is completed.
- Celebrate your child when they complete their homework through a reward system or praise.
- Promote a positive attitude towards homework by making it clear how it shows that your child is taking on more responsibility for their learning and is becoming ever more ready for secondary education.

Teacher Monitoring:

- Teachers and support staff will check through homework books and tick and sign work on a weekly basis in line with the school's Marking Policy. There will be some corrections given, when needed, that children will be expected to act upon.

Overview:

Homework	Who	Where	Frequency
Daily Reading	EYFS-Year 6	Home-School Diary	<i>Daily</i> with a signature and some comments on the reading.
Spellings	Years 1-6	Homework Book	<i>Weekly</i> with a test the following week. Spellings are to be written into sentences in the child's Homework Book, except for Year 1. Once old spellings are tested, the new ones are sent home. Results are to be recorded onto diaries with a note made of incorrect spellings.
Multiplication	Years 3 & 4	Times Tables Rockstars	<i>Daily</i> with practice to be checked the following day by the class teacher.
English and Maths	Years 2-6	Century	<i>Weekly</i> set every Friday and due the following Friday. Year 2 will start after the Christmas holidays.
Science	Years 2-6	Century	<i>Half-termly</i> due the following Friday in the next half-term.