



## **NORFOLK HOUSE PREPARATORY SCHOOL, PRE-PREP and Montessori House Nursery**

### **Homework Policy:**

This policy applies to all pupils in the school, including in the EYFS and covers procedures expected of staff working with children at both sites

Year 1-6, 10 Muswell Ave, London N10 2EG  
EYFS - 5 Princes Ave, London N10 3LS

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Paul Jowett Headteacher

The purpose of homework at Norfolk House School is to reinforce and extend learning, and is for the main part relevant to what is done within the class. It is also intended to develop the discipline of working and learning independently. Homework set, will respond to individual needs as appropriate through differentiation.

Homework should be set and written in the homework diary; Pre-prep and Junior Prep parents should sign off completed homework daily. It is also advisable (and helpful) for **all** parents to sign homework that may produce less tangible results, such as Maths Whizz/ Internet based research/ Online activities etc.

Reading: Where pupils take home reading books and a Reading Record, parents are to sign and make a comment each time they hear their child read. Daily reading can include other books apart from Reading scheme books as these will only be changed as specified for individual year groups. The value of reading books outside of a reading scheme and with a parent or older sibling will do much to enhance your child's love of reading and to develop early understanding as well as de-coding ability.

Guidelines on regularity, time allocation and content of homework for each year group is below:

**Nursery:** Nursery pupils do not receive homework, other than reading books for children who show readiness.

**Reception      Reading every night\* + set tasks 3 times per week**

Time allocation: 15 – 20 minutes

Mon: English

Weds: Maths

Fri: Topic/Creative activity

\*Reading or flashcards dependent upon reading readiness. Reading books are changed twice per week depending on level.

**Form 1            Reading every night\* + set tasks 3 times per week**

Time allocation: 20 minutes

Tues: Research Skills

Weds: Maths activities including Maths Whizz

Fri: Spellings & sentences / Stories

\*Reading books are changed 2-3 times per week depending on level

**Form 2            Daily reading (15 minutes per night), 3 tasks + 1 French homework set each week**

Time allocation 25 – 30 minutes

2 x Reading books each week

English based work linked to spelling

maths based activities (including Maths Whizz)

times tables & spellings

**Form 3            Daily reading (15 minutes per night), 3 tasks + 1 French homework set each week**

*Homework will be set on each day (although a homework schedule will be sent at the beginning of each week, broadly outlining the homework for the week ahead)*

Time allocation 30 minutes

2 x Reading books set each week

English based work

Maths based activities (including Maths whizz) / Times tables & spellings

#### **Forms 4                      Daily reading (15 minutes per night)**

*Homework will be set daily (although a homework schedule will be sent at the beginning of each week, broadly outlining the homework for the week ahead)*

Time allocation: 30 minutes

2 x English

2 x Maths

1 x French

1 x Topic

#### **Forms 5 and 6    Daily reading (15 minutes per night minimum)**

Time allocation: 45 minutes

2 x English

2 x Maths

1 x French

1 x Topic

#### **Tasks**

Homework exercises may take a range of forms, including written work in exercise books, reading, using reference books, practical work, finding artefacts, project work, practice papers.

In addition pupils are expected to read daily for a minimum of the time allocated for each year group.

In each year group the maximum length of time to be spent on homework is the time allocated + the reading time.

**Maths Whizz:** Children have access to their Maths Whizz log in details and are encouraged to use this regularly. Maths Whizz is set by individual year groups on a regular basis

**Holiday Homework:** Holiday homework will be set for PrePrep and Junior Prep pupils in order that vital skills are retained over the breaks. Senior Prep pupils will not receive holiday homework, except in the build up to senior school exams. However, we will be providing a list of resources for parents, giving guidance, should they wish to work with their children during the holidays.

In the case of pupils where the **teacher** identifies a specific need, which will benefit from extra homework, this will be set as appropriate.

#### **Homework for short-term sickness:**

Homework that has required lesson input will not be set for short-term sickness (up to 3 days). However, we understand that some parents do wish for their children to know what has been missed and we will work with parents on an individual basis to offer **brief** outlines of such lessons. We will also agree to offer any homework that may already have had class input or be

supplementary and therefore does not need specific teacher exposition (such as regular homework like Reading Response etc), on request.

For longer periods of sickness, please speak to your child's class teacher so that appropriate independent work can be organised.

**Homework for holidays taken during term time:** We advise that parents do not take their children out of school during term time, as they miss crucial lesson input. However, with advanced warning, we are able to set homework for children in PrePrep and Junior Prep pupils who will be missing school for an **authorised absence agreed by the Head Teacher**.

In Senior Prep, this will be at the discretion of the class teacher, for example during exam preparation, or if there has been sufficient class input for that work. Where parents wish to work with their children during these periods, please consult the Senior Prep ideas and resource list.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Parental guidelines for Senior Prep maths holiday work**

#### **Online**

There are many excellent online resources.

Your child is already registered with Maths Whizz and may access lessons / games. (Please do not exceed the recommended time.)

Google **mathszone KS2** and there is a wide selection of free resources with a topic-based menu.

For **tables practice** try [mathszone.KS2 / x÷ /tables tester](https://www.mathszone.com/tables-tester) Ambleside

**BBC Bitesize KS2 Maths** is also informative and fun.

#### **Textbooks**

WH Smith stock a variety of **KS2 problem solving** workbooks written for different year groups.

As we use the Bond Books at school, it is **not** a good idea to purchase these.

A combination of number work and problem solving is preferable.

\*Please do not be tempted to go a stage higher than your child's age group. The aim is to reinforce and broaden understanding of topics already covered at KS2 level, not to move into the GCSE curriculum!

## **Appendix 2**

### **Parental Guidance for Senior Prep English Holiday Homework**

#### **Reading**

Children should be reading for at least 15 minutes a day. Even when a child is a fluent reader, it is vital that he/she continues to discuss books with adults in order to develop higher level comprehension skills.

#### **Writing**

Below is a list of suggested writing activities:

- Keep a holiday diary
- Send postcards to friends and family
- Write a story

- Create a newspaper or magazine, including articles about current affairs
- Write a playscript or a screenplay based on a book or film
- Create a holiday brochure or website for a place that you visit
- Make a leaflet for a gallery or museum that you attend
- Make a programme for a sports event or theatre performance you attend

### **Websites**

- [www.shortstoryideas.herb.me.uk](http://www.shortstoryideas.herb.me.uk) - provides starting points for writing stories
- BBC Bitesize KS2 Literacy – games and activities to reinforce core literacy skills

### **Textbooks**

WH Smith stock a good selection of books with exercises to support children's spelling, punctuation, grammar and comprehension skills. Select books aimed at your child's age in order that the content reinforces learning taking place at school.