

The best possible start to a lifelong education



# Homework Policy

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## **Homework Policy**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Homework has been defined as work which is set to be completed outside of the timetabled curriculum.

It would be inappropriate to be definite about the kind of homework desirable for all children or to be prescriptive about the precise amount of time that should be allocated because of the widely differing needs of children.

This document, however, will give general guidance so that the purpose and nature of homework given at Caegarw will be understood by all.

There will be flexibility within the overall approach to homework and the work will be set to meet the needs of particular children.

### **THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK**

The main purpose of homework will be to generate a variety of learning experiences additional to those provided at school.

These experiences will be regarded as supportive and an extension of the work going on in school.

The children should feel that homework is closely related to the work they are doing in school and that it has a purpose, interest and relevance to their needs. It should never be regarded by pupils or teachers as a time filler.

### **AIMS**

- To extend children's experiences
- To foster independence and initiative
- To develop an increasing responsibility for their own learning
- To develop study skills
- To consolidate classroom learning
- To promote the cooperation and involvement of parents
- To take risks and have fun

### **GUIDANCE FOR TEACHERS**

Teachers should vary the tasks set for homework and ensure that they are appropriate to the needs and ability of the children. The work set should reinforce the class work. The tasks may be presented in a range of styles.

The tasks set should be varied, eg

- Finding things out
- Looking for things
- Bringing items in for class work
- Making things
- Reading
- Writing

Homework will be set by the teacher as and when the need arises and will be checked on completion. It is important that children are able to pursue other interests, so careful consideration needs to be given to the amount of homework given. **The emphasis should be on quality, not quantity.**

Some children with learning difficulties or home problems may have difficulty in completing regular homework assignments so we need to be aware of individual circumstances and deal sensitively with such children.

These flexible guidelines avoid an adherence to a rigid time allocation and make allowances for widely differing circumstances, including age, ability, home circumstances and other demands on children's time.

Homework cannot be made a compulsory activity and if it is to have a positive effect when it is issued, it must have the support of parents.

#### **THE ROLE OF PARENTS (outlined in home school agreement)**

Parents can help their children by:

- Encouraging and supporting them in their work
- Checking presentation
- Testing what has been set to learn
- Listening to them read
- Asking them about what they are studying
- Giving access to a suitable working surface
- Providing a time set aside for homework
- Providing basic equipment eg pen, paper, pencil etc

It is important to recognise that children work at different speeds so that homework will take longer for some children than others. The homework set may be intended to be complete or consolidate or extend work done in the classroom.

Parents are sometimes concerned about the content, nature or amount of homework. These parents are encouraged to contact the class teacher.

Date endorsed by the Governing Body \_\_\_\_\_