



Appendix 1: Parent & Carer Summary – Homework at Braniel

Our Approach to Homework

At Braniel Primary School, we believe homework should support learning without causing stress. Following feedback from parents, pupils and staff, we have reviewed our approach to ensure homework is manageable, meaningful and appropriate to each age group. We have consulted with parents, carers, staff and children in producing this new approach.

What Homework Will Focus On

Across the school, homework will mainly focus on:

- Reading (the most important and valuable homework activity)
- Spellings / key words
- Number facts, tables and basic numeracy skills

These were consistently identified by parents, pupils and teachers as the most beneficial for learning.

Written homework will be kept to a minimum, particularly in younger year groups, and will only be set where it clearly supports learning already taught in class.

How Much Homework Can You Expect?

The times below are maximum guidelines, not targets:

- Foundation Stage – P2: up to 10–20 minutes per day
- P3 – P5: up to 20–30 minutes per day
- P6 – P7: up to 30–45 minutes per day

If homework regularly takes longer than this, parents are encouraged to let the class teacher know.

Frequency and Organisation

- Homework will be given out on consistent days within each year group
- Where possible, children will have sufficient time to complete tasks, recognising family routines, after-school activities and rest
- Clear instructions will be shared with parents

Supporting Different Needs

We recognise that children learn in different ways and that home circumstances vary.

- Homework may be differentiated or adapted to suit individual needs
- Alternative formats or reduced tasks may be used where appropriate
- Teachers will work with parents if homework is proving stressful or challenging

How Parents Can Help

Parents can support best by:

- Encouraging and supporting rather than teaching new content
- Keeping homework time positive and pressure-free
- Prioritising wellbeing, rest and family time
- Communicating with school if concerns arise

It is understood that not all children receive the same level of support at home, and this is taken into account.

Our Commitment

Our goal is for homework to:

- Reinforce learning
- Build confidence and independence
- Respect children's wellbeing
- Strengthen partnerships between home and school
- We will continue to review our approach and welcome ongoing feedback from families.



Appendix 2: What Homework Looks Like in Your Child's Year Group

The table below gives an overview of the typical homework expectations at each stage. This provides guidance rather than a fixed rule and may be adapted to meet individual needs.

Year Group	Typical Homework Focus	Frequency	Approx. Daily Time	How Parents Can Help
Nursery	Optional home activities (songs, rhymes, sharing books)	Optional	Short, informal	Share stories, sing songs together, talk about everyday experiences
Foundation Stage (P1&2)	Reading or sharing a book; sounds/ key words; written numeracy & literacy task	Weekly	10 -20 minutes	Read with your child, talk about pictures, praise effort
Key Stage 1 (P3&4)	Reading; spellings; number facts; written numeracy & literacy task	Weekly	20–30 minutes	Help test spellings & practice tables; encourage independence;
Key Stage 2 (P5-7)	Reading; spellings; tables; written numeracy & literacy task	Weekly	30-45 minutes	Encourage good routines; support without over-correcting

Please note:

- Homework will usually be given out on a Monday and returned by Friday each week
- Times shown are maximum guidelines, not expectations
- Written homework is kept to a minimum and only set where it supports learning already taught
- Homework may be differentiated or adapted for individual pupils
- Non-completion of homework will be addressed through our Positive Behaviour Policy
- Parents are encouraged to contact the class teacher if homework is causing stress or taking longer than expected