



Homework Policy

Bletchley Park Primary School Statement on Homework

The staff at Bletchley Park Primary School, do not provide students with formal homework or implement a formal homework regime. There may be times, however, when students are required to complete an activity at home to contribute to a classroom task (such as collect data for a graph or ask questions to complete a survey).

The students at this school are required to read each night. The amount and type of reading students undertake will be determined by their phase of learning and their individual needs. Teachers will outline the requirements of home reading at class meetings undertaken at the beginning of each year.

Rationale

The staff at Bletchley Park Primary School strongly believes that the benefits of positive family interaction and constructive family time are vital, and will result in improved student achievement.

The results of research into the benefits of homework, for students, are varied. Preparation of students for the time commitment of homework anticipated in years to come is not, in itself, a reasonable basis for setting homework

The link between homework and student achievement is far from clear.

There is no conclusive evidence that homework increases student achievement. Some studies show a positive effect, while other studies show no effect or even in some cases a negative effect from homework.

The effect of parent involvement in homework is unclear.

Studies of parent involvement in homework have produced mixed results. Some research says, that homework assignments that require interaction between parents and students results in higher levels of parent involvement. Other studies indicate that students whose parents are more involved have lower class grades.

Guidelines for Parents

Parents, who wish for their child to participate in a homework program, will need to do so under their own steam. Resources can be found on the Internet or in commercial activity books. Links to appropriate activities can be found as a link on the school web site.

Homework, if given, should:

- support the development of the student's independence as a learner;
- be developmentally appropriate
- avoid dependence on unreasonable levels of parental assistance or resources that are not readily available to the student;
- be set without impinging on reasonable time for family, recreational, cultural and employment pursuits relevant to the student's age, development and educational aspirations. Homework should not be longer than 1 hour per week in total.