

# Upper Beeding Homework Guide



Learning at home is an important part of a good education to support learning which has taken place in school. It also teaches children the skills and habits of studying outside of school, which they will need as they grow up, to prepare them for lifelong learning.

Homework at Upper Beeding Primary School is planned and is part of our approach to making the most of children's learning. Homework will be set that is right for the child's level. The amount of work and the time that we expect children to spend on homework will change as the children progress through the school. We will expect children to do the homework set and to bring it back in to school. Homework timetables are sent out in termly newsletters for each year group for parents/carers and children to use.

Children's learning should be a partnership between home and school, and homework should be part of the learning process. For example, it is very important that parents and children read together in the early years if children are going to be good, confident readers later on. We also know that too much homework can upset and tire a child. There must be a good balance.

Homework and a reading diary also give parents and teachers a way of speaking to each other about the children's work and progress in school. A child's progress is assessed carefully as a normal part of school life.

## Tips for busy parents

Remember that learning should be fun! Please be positive, patient and encouraging. Children are quick to feel when a parent is worried or cross. No child will make mistakes on purpose – and we all need success and encouragement.



## 1. Reading

- ✓ Make sure you and your child are in a quiet place, away from the television!
- ✓ Do not bother when your child is hungry, tired or upset – reading should be a happy time.
- ✓ Read to and with your child, as well as hearing them read.
- ✓ Show them how to read with feeling, and try using "voices" when people speak.
- ✓ If your child cannot read a word, please tell them what it is or encourage them to use their phonics to sound out.
- ✓ Encourage them to talk about what you are reading together.
- ✓ If you feel that the book your child is reading is too easy or too hard, please don't find fault with your child because it was their choice. Please talk to the teacher if you think your child always chooses the wrong books. (Use the reading diary if you like).
- ✓ **Above all, please hear your child read as often as you can.** It does not need much of your time, but it will help your child very much in school.

## 2. Spelling

Lists of words may come home with your child.

- ✓ Please check that they have their spellings to learn at home!
- ✓ Any time you can find to help learn spellings will help your child.

This is a good way to learn them:

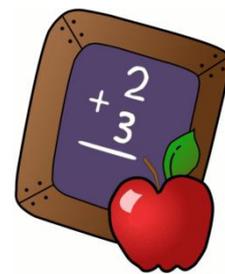
- **LOOK** carefully at the word.
- **COVER** the word: try to see it in your head.
- **WRITE** the word: say it as you write it.
- **CHECK** is it correct? If yes, good: If not, try again.



- ✓ Playing word games such as "Hangman" is also an effective way for your child to learn their spellings.

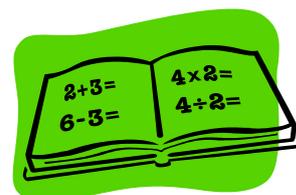
### 3. Maths

- ✓ Encourage your child to explain how to solve the problem, as well as giving the final answer. This might help in understanding newer methods used at school to assist your child's Maths learning.
- ✓ Encourage your child to not be afraid to make mistakes – this is an important aspect of learning!
- ✓ When solving Maths problems, encourage your child to take risks and to try different approaches in seeking a solution.
- ✓ A booklet 'Helping Your Child with Maths' is available on the school VLE or from your child's teacher. This is designed to support you in understanding different methods of calculation used at Upper Beeding Primary School and to explore how these methods build upon each other.
- ✓ In Year 1 and 2 children bring home a weekly maths game to play



### 4. Times Tables

- ✓ Remembering your times tables is very important, so that Maths becomes easier for your child.
- ✓ We want children to learn their tables, especially when they apply this knowledge to other areas of Maths.
- ✓ Knowing the 3x table does not just mean being able to count 3, 6, 9, 12, etc. It also means being able to answer straight away "What is 8x3?", or "How many 3's are there in 21?"
- ✓ As well as learning tables, we also practise number bonds. (For example, 2+8=10; 3+7=10; 50+50=100) Ask your child, how many ways can you make 10?
- ✓ Maths can be fun – board games with dice can help number work! (Or Monopoly money!!)
- ✓ Just like reading, any time you can spend with your child will help.
- ✓ In school we use a great singing resource called Percy Parker which you can find on the internet.



### 5. Individual Targets

- ✓ Our homework activities and tasks support your child in reaching their learning targets throughout the school. They give children an opportunity to continue to work towards their individual targets at home and this has a hugely positive effect on their progress in school.
- ✓ Your child will be given progressive targets throughout the year and these will be shared at Parents' Evenings for you to use to support your child in their learning.



### Some of your questions answered

**Q: What is homework?**

Homework is any work or activity which children are asked to do outside school. It may be work on their own or with their parents. Homework will include a range of tasks from English or Mathematics work to reading with or to parents. The type of homework that is set for each year group and the time allocation is set out in the homework policy.

**Q: How will it help my child?**

Homework should back up work done in school. It should practise skills already learnt and improve the child's confidence. It also helps the child learn to study for themselves and prepare for a lifetime of learning.

**Q: What will my child and I have to do?**

Parents should check that reading diaries come home and go back to school every day, even if nothing is written in them. We expect the children to do the homework set and return it on time. Parents may need to work with children, for example, hear them read and talk about the book or task.

**Q: What will the teachers do?**

Teachers will aim to keep to the homework timetable. They will always check homework and will give rewards to children who show good efforts in their homework and return it on or before the due date.

**Q: How will I know when to expect homework?**

The homework timetable will set out:

- ✓ How much homework each year group should have.
- ✓ How long the child should spend on homework.
- ✓ When homework should be set.
- ✓ When homework should be returned.



A copy of the timetable will be sent home at the beginning of the year and it will also be available on the school VLE.

**Q: What if the homework is too hard or too much?**

We hope parents will encourage and support their children with homework. We would not expect the child to spend a long time with a piece of work if they are having real difficulty with it. Please stop the child and tell us about the problem.

**Q: How will the homework be checked in school?**

Homework, like spellings or tables, will be marked when the children are tested. Homework may be marked by the teacher, the child or another child. Homework may be assessed as part of a lesson. For example, chanting tables or answering questions about information they were asked to find.

**Q: How will I know how well my child has done?**

Teachers may make comments on the homework or tell the child how well they have done. Please feel free to ask your child's teacher if you would like more information.

