

BELLINGHAM

PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS

Homework Policy

2025-26



Approved by:	Governors	Date:	04.12.25
Last review date:	May 2025	Next review date:	September 2026
Policy applies to:	Bellingham Primary School	Yes	Bellingham Middle School Yes

Introduction

There is significant research that demonstrates that the completion of homework for children is a benefit to their learning. Evidence also suggests that developing strong habits for study outside of the school environment is a key aspect in the development of lifelong learning and independent work. Reviewing and consolidating work after input in the classroom is a key aspect of enabling children to retain and retrieve information, activating their prior learning.

All children

All children in all year groups are expected to read every day at home. Reading books are available in school and should be changed regularly. For those involved in the Accelerated Reading scheme, regular testing on the texts is monitored in school, and rewarded through our Celebration Assemblies.

Reception

Children are set work regularly to complete at home. This may be a focused question designed to support reading, or are half-termly challenges linked to their current topic. In addition, children are given phonics home learning activities each week to help letter formation or reading focus sheets based on the sounds that have been taught or reviewed in school. These will be shared with parents via Class Dojo, or another electronic system.

Key Stage 1 and 2

Each week pupils will be set homework which includes:

- Maths
- Spellings
- English

This will be communicated via Class Dojo (for children in Bellingham Primary School) or via the Pupil Planner (for children in Bellingham Middle School).

If children in Years 1 to 4 do not complete their homework, they are expected to complete it at playtime on Friday. If children in Years 5 or 6 do not complete their homework, they are expected to complete it during a breaktime or lunchtime callback.

Key Stage 3

Each week, children in Years 7 and 8 will be set homework across a range of subjects. This will include weekly assignments in:

- English
- Maths
- Science

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 will also be set homework in the following subjects on a rolling basis:

- Humanities
- Languages
- Art
- Technology

Pupils will record homework in their Pupil Planner, and it is expected that parents/carers will check Planners each week and sign these to show that they are aware of the homework being set. If children in Year 7 or 8 do not complete their homework, they are expected to complete it during a breaktime or lunchtime callback.

Support for children with additional needs

Teachers will set homework in an inclusive manner, appropriate for children to complete given their age, stage and understanding. Homework will take into account any SEND needs that may impact the pupil's completion.

Homework Clubs

All children are welcome to complete their homework at school, and there are opportunities every day in both schools to complete homework at lunchtime or in after-school clubs. For some children, particularly those with SEND, staff may proactively encourage them to attend a homework club in order for the pupil to feel supported and able to complete their homework with the assistance of staff.

Online Homework

Pupils will be attached to Google Classrooms for each subject and some homework will be set on Google Classroom to complete at home. This will also be recorded in Planners, or communicated to parents separately.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard. The Bellingham Partnership of Schools recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also lend itself to cheating and plagiarism.

Pupils may use AI tools as a research tool to help them find out about new topics and ideas.

Pupils may not use AI tools:

- During assessments
- To write their homework or class assignments, where AI-generated text is presented as their own work.

Monitoring, marking and feedback

Teachers will monitor completion of homework, and where homework is not completed on time a member of staff may impose a sanction in line with the school's behaviour policy, in order to catch up on the homework that has been missed. Parents/carers will be informed using normal school:home communication methods. Homework will be marked and receive feedback from staff in line with the expectations of the Assessment and Marking Policy.

