



# Berryfields C of E Primary School

## Homework Help for Parents

### Why is Homework Important?

Homework set prior to a lesson can aid understanding later in class. Homework also provides opportunities to reinforce and practise work taught during school time and for children to develop their own independent research skills. Children will need to seek information for themselves from reference materials such as the internet, encyclopaedias and books; and by doing so, are helped along the path to becoming independent learners.

Regular, well planned homework can...

- develop good work habits and self discipline;
- encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance;
- help parents to gain insight into their child's schoolwork;
- provide opportunities for individualised work;
- offer access to resources not found in school [home computers, public libraries, local museums...];
- assist preparation for future class work;
- provide a context for pupil/parent interaction.

### Tips for good homework habits

- Do find a quiet place at home to use as a homework area. It needs a flat surface, a good light source and the right equipment eg pens, pencils, ruler, scissors, glue.
- Do be aware of modern teaching methods, eg in long division ask your teacher for advice – we are always willing to support homework
- Do plan a homework timetable and agree on when your child will do their homework.
- Do allow your child to have something nutritional to eat before starting on homework.
- Do discuss any homework tasks with your child and how it connects with what they are studying at school.
- Do turn off the TV - but you could have music on if they find it helpful.
- Don't give your child the answer in order to get a task finished. Instead, explain how to look up information or find a word in a dictionary.
- Don't teach your child methods you used at school. It could confuse them.
- Don't let homework become a chore. Keep it fun and make it a special time that you both look forward to.
- Remember to give lots of praise so that you build self-esteem.
- Explore other ways to help with school work .i.e. visit a museum or get books from the library.
- Lastly, if it is hard work set a time limit and then put it away and talk to your child's teacher.