

**YSGOL BORTHYN**

**RHUTHUN**

**HOMEWORK POLICY**

## INTRODUCTION

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Homework is given when teachers consider that children will benefit from extra work done at home to support their understanding of the curriculum.

Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support the children's learning. For example, parents who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.

## Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. At Ysgol Borthyn we recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide may be limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed we consider homework as an important example of co-operation between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skills of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of achievement. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside the school.

## Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development.
- To consolidate and reinforce what is learnt in the classroom and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons.
- To develop basic skills (particularly reading, writing and numeracy).
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner.
- To promote co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning.
- To provide educational experiences which may not be possible to pursue in school.
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.
- To prepare for the next stage of education.

It is important that each child sees that home and school are working together in partnership to provide help, support and encouragement. Homework can help to promote a positive attitude to learning at home and provides a vital link between home and school.

At Ysgol Borthyn we always strive to make homework an enjoyable and positive experience.

Our homework policy at Ysgol Borthyn is **NOT**:

- an afterthought at the end of a lesson.
- designed to create anxiety, undue pressure or conflict between parents and children.

### Types of homework

We set a variety of homework tasks through Seesaw at the start of each half term.

Tasks will be explained on a Homework overview page (see example). Tasks may take the following forms:

- re-enforcing a child's understanding of a particular concept or topic.
- research involved with class work.
- Practicing literacy and numeracy targets,
- learning of multiplication tables, spelling lists etc.
- reading.

Pupils are required to complete the 'must do' tasks. The 'might do' tasks are optional.

### Amount of homework

In setting homework we will plan to:

- establish a familiar pattern and routine for pupils and parents.
- reflect the age and capacity of the pupils involved.

### Inclusion and homework

We set homework for our children as a natural part of school life. We ensure that all tasks are appropriate to the ability of the child, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.



### The role of the parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their children to complete the homework tasks that are set for each half term. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary, and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents are regularly encouraged to develop good reading habits and to promote fundamental numeracy awareness. School books and materials which may be taken home by the children are the responsibility of their parents. Should they be lost or damaged, reimbursement will be requested by the school.

If parents have any questions about homework, they are asked, in the first instance, to contact the child's class teacher. We promote active co-operation between all parents and teachers.

### Monitoring and Review

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy. All class teachers have an individual responsibility for the implementation of this homework policy. Homework issues are discussed regularly at staff meetings and this policy is reviewed every three years, or earlier if necessary.

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