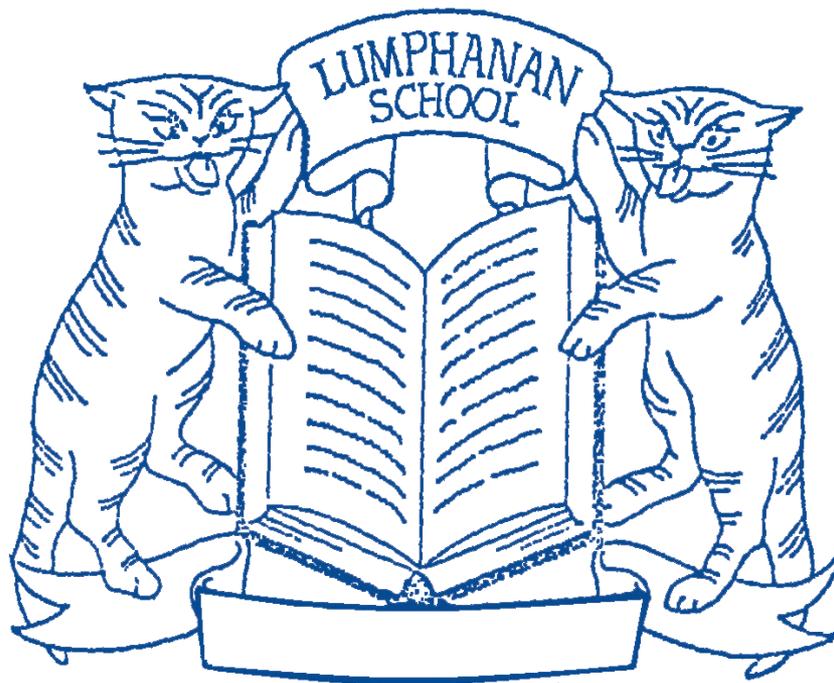


# Homework Policy



## **CONTENTS**

Page 1	Cover
Page 2	Contents
Page 3	Homework Reading
Page 4	Time Allocation Specific Issues Unfinished Class Work Term Time Holidays
Page 5	Illness Sanctions Rights Respecting Schools

## Homework

At Lumphanan Primary School we recognise the important role homework plays in creating positive and meaningful communication between home and school. The amount, the frequency and the nature of homework tasks will vary according to the individual child and to curricular objectives.

At Lumphanan Primary School we aim to set homework tasks that are:-

- Varied
- Well explained (mostly in writing) and with clear purpose
- Related to classroom work
- Manageable in the time given
- Challenging but not too difficult
- Likely to promote confidence through success
- Recognised and rewarded
- Primarily the responsibility of the learner him/her self, or can be supported/supervised by carers.

From the earliest days of Primary the most valuable form of home learning is where parents play a key role in working with their child, not simply hearing their reading, but consciously interacting with the child in promoting language skills and numeracy. Homework tasks can arise from most areas of the curriculum.

## Reading

Reading homework is consistently given to pupils at all ages and stages.

In the early stages of reading this involves:-

- Reading to the child and sharing stories with him/her.
- Practising key words.
- Discussing the pictures and storyline.

As the child becomes more fluent:-

- Listening to the child read.
- Ensuring full understanding through discussion about text/illustrations/characters/plot and vocabulary.

For the fluent reader:-

- Listening to the child read **some** of the text.
- Discussion as above but extend to author, setting and style.
- Encouragement for the child to read more on a topic, or similar books by the same author etc.

At all stages reading should be valued.

## **Time Allocation**

Different children work at different rates and the tasks set will vary week by week. We understand that many children have other activities in the evening and would try to assign work over a number of days providing pupils with the opportunity to manage and organise their time. Pupil's access to resources will be carefully considered in the design and allocation of homework tasks.

As a guideline we would aim to set the following:-

- Early Level P1 – 15-30 minutes
- 1<sup>st</sup> Level P2,P3,P4 – 30-45 minutes
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Level P5,P6,P7 – 60 minutes

## **Specific Issues**

The most important thing a carer can do is simply take an interest in the child's work. Apart from trying to provide the correct time and place for homework completion, parents could:-

- Ask what has to be done and check the homework jotter.
- Sign the finished work.
- If you are unsure about the homework, feel free to write a note to the class teacher in the homework diary.
- Help your child to plan; short, regular sessions during the week. This often works better than last minute efforts.

## **Unfinished Class Work**

This will not be sent home. If a child has not completed tasks in the allocated time, they may be asked to use some of their break time or lunchtime to complete their task, as the teacher feels is appropriate.

If a child persistently does not complete tasks in class the Head Teacher will be informed. She will discuss this matter with the child and their carers.

## **Term Time Holidays**

It is not Aberdeenshire Policy to provide children with work to be completed during family holidays. This is because much of what goes on in Primary School depends on direct teacher intervention, use of materials/resources etc.

## **Illness**

Children who are ill should use the time to recuperate. However, should a child be convalescing and be off school for a considerable time, the class teacher will provide work to be done at home providing the ongoing work of the class is suitable for completion without direct input.

## **Sanctions**

Whilst we recognise homework is a crucial aspect of learning we also recognise that homework is done outside school in the pupil's own time. All homework should be useful and relevant to the child and the child should be given further opportunity to return the task.

However, at no time should valuable teaching time be lost while a teacher pursues late homework.

Should this continue to be a problem, the Head Teacher will be informed and parents contacted. This will allow both home and school to work together to help the child.

## **Rights Respecting Schools**

This Policy was drawn up through discussion with the Upper Stages pupils and meets the following rights:-

- Article 12 - The right to an opinion.**
- Article 17 - The right to information.**
- Article 28 - The right to a good education.**
- Article 29 - The right to develop talents.**