Willesborough Infant School

Homework Policy

Persons Responsible – Shelly King

Last Review Date: March 2026
Next Review Date: March 2027

“Homework has an impact by enabling pupils to undertake independent learning to practice and consolidate skills, conduct in-depth inquiry, prepare for lessons or revise for exams.” Education Endowment Foundation.

Homework is designed to support your child’s learning. Short, purposeful tasks help children practise what they’ve learned, develop independence, and share their learning with you. Your encouragement — even just asking about the task — makes a real difference.

Why is homework important?

- It raises your child’s achievement
- It consolidates and extends learning which has taken place in school
- It develops independence
- It helps to inform you about your child’s schoolwork and gives you the opportunity to support this work
- It is a valuable life skill and develops good work habits for secondary school and future employment
- It builds a learning partnership with families

What sort of activities should my child be doing?

Our home learning activities are related to the learning tasks set at school.

These include:

- Reading with parents or carers
- Learning key spellings
- NumBots (a mathematical programme to support mental calculations to add and subtract)

Year Group	Homework Activity
Early Years Foundation Stage	*Reading with an adult every day. This includes the Collins Hub online texts and school decodable books, which are changed once a week (Friday). Children visit the library once a week to choose a book and enjoy with their family. Parents are encouraged to read other books with their children and include these in the reading record too. *Weekly activity set on Tapestry. This is a task related to the children's learning in class, designed for the parents and child to complete together.
Year One	*Reading to an adult – every day for up to ten minutes. This includes the Collins Hub online texts, school library books and school decodable books. Parents are also encouraged to read other books with their children. *Little Wandle spelling sheet with decodable and tricky words *Play NumBots - minimum of 4x a week (3 minutes a day to achieve their daily goal).
Year Two	*Reading to an adult – every day for up to ten minutes. This includes school library books and school decodable books. Parents are also encouraged to read other books with their children and include these in the reading record too. *6 spellings to learn every week *Play NumBots - minimum of 4x a week (3 minutes a day to achieve their daily goal).

Teacher Response to Homework

Reading:
Teachers will regularly look through every child's reading record folder to see whether a child has read at home or not. Our aim is for every child to read daily.

NumBots:
NumBots offers children immediate feedback as they collect coins and stars when they progress through their mathematical journey. When the children are confident with a level, they automatically move on to the next one.

Should I help my child with homework?

Homework allows you to see what your child is learning at school and how to support their learning. This partnership between school and home is a vital part of successful education. We believe that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved - as long as this is not too much, and the child is able to demonstrate independent learning and understanding of the activity.
If you feel that your child is finding a homework task too easy or too hard you should come in and speak to your child's class teacher. Similarly, if you are unsure as to how to help your child best with their homework please do not hesitate to come in and ask. We also offer a number of workshops and meetings which will show you how to help your child best with their learning.

10 things you can do to help your child learn

1. Give your child confidence through lots of praise and encouragement.

You have tremendous power to strengthen your child's confidence - and confidence is vital to learning.
Provide specific praise that focuses on a particular aspect of their work. Comments such as, "I like the way you have…" can be more effective than "You're clever".

2. Read to, and with, your child as much as possible.

Parents and carers to read to children, hear them read, or encourage them to read to themselves, for at least 10 minutes a day.

3. Encourage your child to observe and talk about what they see, feel, think etc
   Even young children can be helped to read notices and signs, for example, and understand what they mean.
4. Make use of your local library. Look out for special events and services for children.
5. Visit museums, the seaside, parks, zoos, farms, exhibitions and other places you think your child might find interesting.
6. Try to provide a reasonably quiet and suitable place where your child can work and show that you and all members of the family value and respect the homework activity.
7. Try to set time aside to support your child's homework activities whilst also allowing some independence where appropriate.

8. Encourage your child to discuss homework with you. Including, how it links to their learning in the classroom.
9. Try to help your child to see the enjoyable aspects of homework.
10. Remind your children to complete and hand in homework on time.

Resources provided to enable you and your child to access learning at home;

- The School's website provides useful links and information
- The colourful topic web you receive at the start of each term shows what your child will be learning and gives you ideas to follow up at home
- School reading books and reading folders
- Logins for Tapestry, the Collins Hub and NumBots