

12th September 2018.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please read the following carefully, as we have made some adjustments to our homework/home learning policy and schedule, in the light of feedback from parents and teachers.

From the outset, I would like to stress that we know that parents hold a wide range of views about homework and that it will be impossible to please all of you. Some of you would like your children to have no homework at all and others would like hours of it. So there has to be a degree of compromise from everyone, in order to proceed in a manageable way.

We are trialling a new approach, which is streamlined to match the National Curriculum. We also hope it will be easier for parents to understand, to facilitate their involvement and to clarify expectations. A mark scheme will be included, which will enable instant correction.

First and foremost, I cannot stress enough the importance of reading. We want our children to enjoy reading and develop a real love of books, and this requires considerable adult support, particularly in the early stages. In addition to the reading activities undertaken in school, parents have a vital role to play in reading to and/or listening to children read, as well as discussing books. Guidance notes, "Read with Me", are published on the website in "Curriculum" ► "Reading", alongside recommended reads for each year group.

Please note the following key points in relation to other homework for the coming year:-

- Children from Year 2 onwards will receive two homework books for Maths. One of the Maths books is for revision of arithmetic skills (Mental Maths Workout) the other is for mathematical reasoning and problem solving (Targeted Questions)
- Children from Year 4 onwards will also receive a book for English. This book is for revision of Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.
- The books contain revision material for your child's year group **with answers in a separate section.**
- Each week you will receive an email notification of the homework set for your child in Maths and English for the coming week. This will take the form of a book title,

page number and task title for each task set, e.g. Targeted Question Book, page 11, Division.

- You are free to arrange on which day each task will be completed.
- On occasion, your child will be given a topic-related task instead of an English task. In this case, the details will also be given in the email with a specified return date.
- There will no longer be a homework folder. The books must be kept in a school bookpack/bag with your child's current reading book at all times.
- Spot-checks will be carried out by teachers at the end of a weekly cycle, to check that the relevant homework set up to that point has been attempted. In the event that homework has not been attempted, the school will contact parents to discuss the matter.
- Checking and reviewing of homework tasks will take place at home. We recommend that an adult looks through the completed tasks – with reference to the mark scheme - to check for accuracy and to oversee their completion.
- We recommend that timings continue to be applied to homework tasks, as in previous years. (See schedule on website).
- We also recommend the following:-
 - 5 minutes to introduce and discuss the task (supported)
 - Between 10 – 20 minutes for the child to attempt the task independently – your child should be encouraged to leave out questions they cannot do, and move on
 - 5 minutes at the end to discuss problems or queries (supported)
 - No more than 30 minutes (45 minutes for Year 6) should be spent on the whole process above, for any one task.
- Children are encouraged to discuss task-related queries with the classteacher, who will be glad to go through any questions still causing confusion after the above process has been completed.

The school will cover the cost of the first set of homework books given to your child. Replacement of lost books will be charged as follows:

Title	1 st replacement	2 nd replacement = retail price
KS2 Mental Maths Workout	£3	£3.50
KS2 Maths Targeted Question Book	£3.50	£3.95
KS2 G, P & S Targeted Question Book	£5	£5.95
Y2 Mental Maths Workout	£3	£3.50
Y2 Maths Targeted Study & Question Book	£4	£4.95

It is important that children have a quiet space to complete their homework and that they are encouraged to do it independently. If parents experience trouble with getting their children to do their homework, they should contact the classteacher.

Your child should have a pencil case with the following equipment inside:-

- Pencil
- Sharpener
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Protractor
- Coloured pencils
- Small mirror

Please note that the Brompton Library has a room upstairs and they offer homework support.

At the Curriculum Evening on Wednesday 26th September, classteachers will explain how best to support your child.

For further information, please see the website under “Curriculum” ► “Homework/Home Learning” for the policy, schedule and links to useful websites and apps. If you have come across any relevant websites and apps, please let your classteacher know.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Helen Swain
Headteacher