



Homework Policy

September 2026

Introduction

At Birtley House School we value the partnership between school and home and consider parents / carers as partners in the education of their children.

Homework can be valuable as it gives children the opportunity to practise, consolidate and extend the basic skills and knowledge covered in school. Furthermore, homework can support a child's positive attitude to learning, and can improve his/her organisational and study skills and ultimately it can raise standards. Efforts and good work in the completion of homework will be rewarded.

However, we recognise that homework can be difficult to manage at home and that children do not always respond in the same way to parents and teachers. We also value outside activities, hobbies and sports. Therefore, the homework programme at Birtley House is **optional**. Parents differ greatly in their views, children's behaviour and we acknowledge this. Therefore, we are entirely flexible about whether our families choose to engage with the homework system.

The Setting of Homework

The setting of homework is consistent throughout the school. The work set will be relevant to your child's teaching programme and will contribute to his/her progress.

Homework may include the learning of multiplication tables, maths investigations, spellings, phonics, comprehension, reading and will also involve children in research projects. (This is additional to regular reading at home).

All homework will be clearly and carefully explained to the children. The following programme is for all Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils.

Subject	
Spellings	Spellings will be given by your child's Literacy teacher via the online portal. The spellings will be appropriate to your child's ability.
Extra Reading	(From home reading book) 10-15 mins daily or as possible / appropriate.
Times Tables / Number bonds	Where appropriate your child's Numeracy teacher will conduct number bonds and times table tests weekly. Once your child has achieved full marks 3 times in a row, they will move onto the next level. The lowest numeracy group will have a short maths based activity to be completed at home.
Homework Passports	Homework passports consist of 8 activities across all curriculum areas focusing on research, investigation and practical tasks. They are linked to curriculum topics. Homework can be completed in any method of recording you wish, e.g. handwritten / computer. Awards are given to children who complete some or all of these tasks in the form of Bronze / Silver / Gold certificates.

Parental Help

We know that you will support your child in completing their homework tasks.

There are many ways you can help your child. Your child may learn using a variety of different methods – visual, kinaesthetic, auditory etc. You may offer support to your child: by discussing the work set; by helping him/her to locate information; by testing what has to be learnt; by listening to your child read what he/she has written; by checking presentation for neatness and accuracy; by offering guidance if your child is unsure of what to do.

As with any concerns, please discuss any problems or difficulties regarding homework with a member of staff or send a message via the online portal. We very much wish homework to be a supportive and positive experience.

September 2025

P Rahman