

Homework Guidelines

Homework guidelines for Primary Schools

There are no formal guidelines for homework from the government but the emphasis is on how homework helps your child to learn, rather than on whether it takes a certain amount of time. For example, some children will work quicker than others and get more done in less time. The rough guidelines for primary school children are:

- **Years 1 and 2: one hour per week**

All homework activities should be related to work that children are doing at school. However, homework should not always be written work. For younger children it will largely be:

- **reading with parents or carers**
- **informal games to practise mathematical skills**

At Odessa, it is our aim to create a positive ethos about children's work and learning. We aim for the children to leave our school believing that they are readers, writers and mathematicians and to have confidence in their abilities. Children's enjoyment of reading, writing and Mathematics is of utmost important and we welcome the support from our parents and carers. We recognise that children have had a long day at school and need time to unwind and relax. We also value the importance of clubs that are run out of school such as swimming, football and dance.

Here are some guidelines about Odessa's homework procedures...

- Homework will be sent out **once a week**. Please see your class teacher for the day it will be handed out.
- Our main focus will be on **reading** – we would like you to share a book with your child or read to them every day for approximately 10 minutes.
- Homework will **almost always** be activity based – we will not be sending home worksheets for your child to complete.
- We will also send home activities that will support your child's writing, numeracy and topic work.
- Activities will be explained to the children before the homework is sent out.
- We intend for these activities to be shared between the child and their parent/carer. We believe that the time to talk is vital!
- We hope that the completion of these homework activities are a positive experience for all involved.
- Talking with your child in the language you are comfortable with is probably the most important thing you can do to help their language and literacy development.
- Have paper and pencils available for free drawing and writing. We value all the work done at home.
- If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to either Mrs Hurfurt, Miss Nelson or your class teacher.