

# GOLDINGTON GREEN ACADEMY



## Homework Policy

### Statement of Intent

The Equality Act 2010 makes it unlawful for staff to discriminate directly or indirectly, or to harass staff or pupils due to any of the twelve protected characteristics.

Goldington Green Academy aims to create a culture that respects and values each other's differences, that promotes dignity, equality and diversity, and that encourages individuals to develop and maximise their true potential.

Everyone within the school community has a responsibility to ensure that this statement is adhered to. Senior Leaders in particular, should lead by example, identify any inappropriate behaviour when it happens and take prompt action to deal with inappropriate behaviour.

We aim to remove any barriers, bias or discrimination that prevents individuals or groups from realising their potential and contributing fully to our school's performance. In removing these barriers, we aim to develop a school culture that positively values diversity.

We are committed wherever practicable, to achieving and maintaining a workforce that broadly reflects the local community in which we operate.

Every possible step will be taken to ensure that individuals are treated fairly in all aspects of their employment, engagement or whilst volunteering at our school.

### **Safeguarding Children**

Goldington Green Academy recognises it has a statutory duty under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and that school may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. Our school will endeavour to support these pupils by providing an ethos which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment, providing a sense of being valued. All staff governors and volunteers must be made aware of, and adhere to the safeguarding policy and procedures within the school.

At Goldington Green we recognise our legal and ethical duty to keep pupils safe from radicalisation and extremism. As such we incorporate the principles of the PREVENT agenda into all practice including the curriculum. Additionally, we ensure that all speakers are carefully vetted by senior staff and that all material available in school, both electronic and otherwise, is suitable. We also ensure that sufficient training is in place so that all staff understand what radicalisation means and why people may be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism as a consequence of it. Staff know what measures are available to prevent people from becoming drawn into terrorism and how to challenge the extremist ideology that can be associated with it. Any concerns are dealt with in line with our safeguarding policy working in conjunction with Bedfordshire Police and other agencies as appropriate.

At Goldington Green Academy homework is seen as an important aspect of the learning process involving parents, teachers and children in a partnership aimed at raising standards of achievement and maximising educational opportunity.

The setting of homework has the following aims:

- (a) to consolidate and extend work undertaken in the classroom;
- (b) to create a better partnership between parents and teachers in the education of children;
- (c) to help promote the development of good study habits and positive attitudes to learning;
- (d) to enable parents to understand the nature of work children are expected to be doing within their year group expectations.

In order to achieve these aims, homework is set regularly throughout the school, gradually increasing in quantity and complexity as children get older. All homework is uploaded onto Google Classroom weekly, this includes spellings and times tables. We adopt a paperless approach so do not send home paper spelling copies however, children are trained to know how to effectively practise spelling at home.

In addition:

- Year 1 and 2 have GPS books: Reading, Maths in both years and GPS in Year 2.
- Mirodeo online homework is set online for Year 3,4 and 5
- Year 6 SATS companion is also set for Year 6.
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Homework constitutes an integral part of curriculum planning and homework tasks are set by teachers in accordance with their curriculum objectives, the age of the children and work being undertaken in class. Thus, tasks set are drawn from a range of activities, such as those indicated below. Normally, homework is set as follows:

- As children progress through the school, the quantity and complexity of work increases, so that by the later years, homework is likely to take in the region of between 1 hour per week for Years 1 & 2, 1 ½ hours per week for Years 3 and 4, and two hours per week for Years 5 and 6. Early Years children are set a homework task once per week. In the Autumn term Early Years children will be introduced to reading books which will be shared at home and returned to school on a daily basis.
- When setting homework, teachers will inform parents and children when it must be returned. It is expected that homework will be completed carefully and handed in on time every week. In addition, each child is provided with a Reading Record which notes the books which have been read, and which parents are asked to sign as they read with their children, adding any relevant comments. In Year 5 and 6 children may write in their own reads, but a parent is expected to sign the planner weekly. The expectation is at least 5 reads per week; children can earn badges for reading regularly.
- Homework is checked by teachers in a manner consistent with the learning objectives of the exercise. Homework tasks will be consistent across each year group and the homework task choice will be discussed in year group meetings.
- When setting homework, teachers will take account of different levels of ability and of pupils with specific needs.
- An optional termly supplementary grid will be provided in each year group for children to complete additional tasks of a more creative nature. In order to aid transition to secondary school, in Year 6 this grid is compulsory and it is expected that one task be handed in each week. Year 6 pupils will be given a red book which can be used for these tasks.

- Half termly Maths 'Key Instant Recall Fact' sheets are sent home for pupils to learn. These are also available on google classroom.

In Years 4, 5 and 6, if homework is not handed in weekly, consequences will be given in line with the Behaviour Policy.

### **Review**

Written by The SLT 26.04.2021

This policy will be reviewed 4 yearly by the SLT and the Curriculum and Standards Committee.

Next review September 2023