

RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2016 SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

VALUE OF HOMEWORK

1. Homework enables pupils to practise the skills taught and process the information learnt, resulting in better understanding and retention of learning. Through homework assignments, pupils have the opportunity to learn outside the classroom and nurture greater self-discipline, time management and a sense of independence. In the process, pupils cultivate good study habits and positive work ethics.

ROLE OF PARENTS

2. Parents play an important part in the children's education. Parents can consider doing the following to support their children in their learning.
 - Check your child's Pupil's Handbook daily to view the homework assignments for the day.
 - Spend time to go through your child's school work.
 - Spend time to supervise your child in doing the homework assignments and learning through the homework assignments.
 - Remind your child to complete the school homework before doing tuition work (if any).
 - Do not do the work for your child, if you want your child to learn.
 - Guide your child to set aside a regular study time and establish good study habits.
 - Ensure your child's timely completion and punctual submission of homework assignments all the time, so that there will not be a backlog.
 - Consult teachers on your child's progress.

ROLE OF PUPILS

3. In order to benefit maximally from the value of homework, pupils should do the following on a daily basis.
 - Refer to the whiteboard in the classroom for the homework assignments.
 - Record the homework assignments in the Pupil's Handbook.
 - Make sure that they understand what needs to be done for all the given homework assignments.
 - Seek help from classmates, friends or teachers if they face any difficulty.
 - Organize their textbooks, workbooks, worksheets and files systematically.
 - Ensure that the homework assignments are brought home to be completed and not left in school.
 - Have a home study timetable.
 - Have a neat study area at home, which is away from distractions such as the television and the computer.
 - Submit completed homework assignments punctually to teachers.

GUIDELINES ON DAILY HOMEWORK

4. The school seeks to ensure pupils' wellness by not overloading pupils with homework assignments. It has worked out an estimated amount of time that pupils would spend to complete their homework assignments on a typical school day. This is just an estimate and some pupils may require less or more time, depending on individual learning needs and styles.

Level/Day	P1 and P2	P3 and P4
Monday	30 minutes for English per day	45 minutes for English per day
Tuesday	30 minutes for Mathematics per day	45 minutes for Mathematics per day
Thursday	30 minutes for Mother Tongue Language per day	45 minutes for Mother Tongue Language per day
Friday	30 minutes for Mother Tongue Language per day	45 minutes for Science twice a week
Wednesday	No Homework Day	No Homework Day

5. On a daily basis, pupils who are not able to finish classwork and corrections in school will need to complete them at home.

6. For “No Homework Day” on Wednesdays, no homework assignments will be issued but pupils are expected to prepare for spelling and tests that have been scheduled on Thursday and complete the classwork and correction that were not completed in school.
7. Homework assignments will not be given over festive periods during term time, e.g. Chinese New Year, Hari Raya Puasa and Deepavali. A spelling activity or a test will generally not be conducted on the school day after the festive period.

GUIDELINES ON WEEKLY SPELLING

8. The school believes that spelling instruction and activities help pupils become stronger readers and more proficient writers.
 - English Spelling is conducted on Wednesdays for P1 to P4.
 - Mother Tongue Spelling is conducted on Thursdays for P1 to P4.
 - Science Spelling is conducted at most three times per term for P3 and P4.
9. The spelling list is issued at least one week before the spelling day to provide advance notice and ample time for preparation. Pupils are expected to learn the spelling words at home.
10. If there is a public/school holiday on Wednesday or Thursday, spelling will be postponed to the next school day.

GUIDELINES ON DAILY READING

11. The school seeks to foster a culture of reading and reflection and develop good reading habits in pupils. It encourages daily reading of at least 15 minutes at home in the following ways:
 - P1 and P2 pupils: Reading to and with the child by parents, care-givers or older siblings
 - P3 and P4 pupils: Independent reading

GUIDELINES ON HOLIDAY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

12. During the school holidays and the PSLE Marking Exercise, homework assignments may be issued. The school has worked out an estimated amount of time that pupils would spend on various subjects/programmes during each period.

Period	Estimated Time Spent on Homework
March School Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour per academic subject, if any • Values in Action (VIA) Project
Mid-Year School Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 hours per academic subject, if any
September School Holidays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour per academic subject, if any • Values in Action (VIA) Project
PSLE Marking Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hours 30 minutes per academic subject

13. During school holidays (including the Year-End School Holidays), pupils are strongly encouraged to engage in reading and revision.

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

14. The school believes in the value of homework to help pupils consolidate their knowledge and skills and cultivate lifelong habits of independent and self-directed learning. We seek the understanding, support and collaboration of parents as our partners in education to ensure that homework works for their children and our pupils.