

## RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2018 SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

### VALUE OF HOMEWORK

- 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

- 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

- 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 and a neat study area at home.
  - Submit completed homework assignments punctually to teachers.

### GUIDELINES ON DAILY HOMEWORK

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

| P1 and P2   | P3 and P4  | P5/P6  |
|---|--|--|
| 20 minutes for EL per day<br>20 minutes for MA per day<br>20 minutes for MT per day | 30 minutes for EL per day<br>30 minutes for MA per day<br>30 minutes for MT per day<br>30 minutes for SC twice a week  | 40 minutes for EL per day<br>40 minutes for MA per day<br>40 minutes for MT per day<br>40 minutes for SC thrice a week   |
| For P1/P2, Wednesday is "No Homework Day".  | For P3/P4, as CCA is conducted on Wednesday or Thursday from 2018, the school will no longer designate Wednesday as "No Homework Day". Instead, the following arrangements will be made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework assignments for EL/MA/MT would be issued only on 4 school days in a week. These 4 school days may vary from subject to subject, depending on the timetable.</li> <li>Homework assignments issued in the middle of the week may be given a later submission deadline.</li> </ul> | For P5/P6, as CCA is conducted on Wednesday or Thursday from 2018, the school will no longer designate Wednesday as "No Homework Day". Instead, the following arrangements will be made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework assignments for EL/MA/MT would be issued only on 4 school days in a week. These 4 school days may vary from subject to subject, depending on the timetable.</li> <li>Homework assignments issued in the middle of the week may be given a later submission deadline.</li> </ul> |

5. On a daily basis, pupils who are not able to finish classwork and corrections in school will need to complete them at home. These classwork and corrections are not considered homework assignments.
6. Preparation for spelling and revision for tests are not considered homework assignments.
7. Homework assignments will not be given over festive periods during term time, namely 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 Tuesdays for P1\*/P2/P3/P4/P5/P6.
  - Mother Tongue Spelling is conducted on Thursdays for P1\*/P2/P3/P4/P5/P6.
  - Science Spelling is conducted at most three times per term for P3/P4/P5/P6.
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 Tuesday or Thursday, spelling will be postponed to the next school day.
11. \*Spelling for P1 will be conducted differently in 2018 with a greater focus on learning how to spell and practising spelling together in class. These spelling activities will be conducted on Tuesdays for English and on Thursdays for Mother Tongue. Details will be provided by the P1 Teachers separately.

#### **GUIDELINES ON DAILY READING**

12. 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/P2 pupils: Reading to the child and with the child by parents, care-givers or older siblings
  - P3/P4/P5/P6 pupils: Independent reading

#### **GUIDELINES ON HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND OTHER SPECIAL DAYS**

13. During the school holidays and other special days when pupils are not required to report to school (e.g. 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.

| <b>Period</b>             | <b>Estimated Time Spent on Homework</b>  |
|---------------------------|--|
| March School Holidays     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour per academic subject, if any</li> </ul>  |
| Mid-Year School Holidays  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 hours per academic subject, if any</li> <li>• e-Learning Package on ICT Skills Development (e.g. touchtyping practice for P1)</li> <li>• Values in Action (VIA) Project for Family Bonding</li> </ul> |
| PSLE Oral (2 days)        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hours per academic subject, if any</li> </ul>   |
| September School Holidays | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour per academic subject, if any</li> </ul>  |
| PSLE LC (1 day)           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 hour per academic subject, if any</li> </ul>  |
| PSLE Marking Exercise     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 hours 30 minutes per academic subject</li> </ul>  |

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

#### **PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS**

15. 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.