SOUTHWICK C E PRIMARY SCHOOL
POLICY STATEMENT ON HOME LEARNING

Rationale:

The Staff and Governors recognise that home learning activities benefit pupils through consolidating, reinforcing and extending skills and understanding of learning, particularly in English and maths, as well as in other subject areas of the curriculum.

Aims:

- to ensure that home learning fits within the scope of the teaching and learning policy, the aims, values and ethos of the school and the Home/School/Child agreement.
- to provide opportunities for parents and children to work together
- to enable parents to become more aware of their child's learning
- to use the parents' interest and enthusiasm to help to motivate the child
- to make children more responsible for their learning whilst developing greater independency, self motivation, self-discipline and time management skills
- to consolidate and support the curriculum.
- to help older pupils prepare for and adjust to the demands of KS3 homework expectations.

Guidelines:

- Activities should complement not merely complete classroom learning
- Sensitivity must be shown towards a child's family circumstances and resources should be made available if required.

Teachers should:

- ensure parents and pupils understand that the purpose of home learning is to maximise children's learning opportunities;
- let parents know about any concerns or problems affecting children's learning or behaviour;
- provide activities which meet the needs of the children and check they understand the task set – this may include planning differentiated tasks
- give clear deadlines for homework to be handed in and mark it/respond to it promptly;
- provide feedback to children;
- check that children are doing the work and report on the standard achieved to parents.

Children should:

- check what they need to do if unsure of the home learning task;
- complete home learning tasks to as high a standard as possible;
- return homework on time;
- act on feedback received from teachers;

Parents should:

- support their child, but not do home learning tasks for them;
- take an active interest in their child's life at school and the home learning tasks set;
- ensure home learning tasks are completed and handed in on time;
- make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect their child's ability to complete home learning tasks.

Conclusion:

This policy must be read in conjunction with the school's policies on teaching and learning, National Curriculum subjects, Equal Opportunities, and Special Needs.

How can you support your child when they are completing their home learning tasks?
Supporting children when completing their homework is a crucial role which should not be underestimated.

Recommendations:

- Make sure that your child has a quiet place to sit and do their homework.
- Ensure that your child reads at least five times a week; support your child by questioning them about what they have read
- Note that less confident readers will benefit from being listened to by parents every day; more confident readers will enjoy talking about their books with parents.
- Take an interest in their home learning tasks and talk about how they are going to do them.
- Help them to check work for spelling, grammar and arithmetical mistakes.
- Help your child to learn spellings and their meanings.
- Practise number bonds and tables regularly with your child until you are sure they know them accurately and can recall them rapidly.
- Encourage your child to do his/her best.
    - He/she should take a pride in his/her work
    - Allow him/her to have enough sleep so that he/she is able to learn effectively
- Make sure that your child realises that you expect him/her to always do his/her best and that this can be best achieved by behaving sensibly and concentrating on the task.
- Try not to do the work for your child or expect perfection.

Thank you for your help and support.