**Hugh Joicey Church of England First School**

**Homework Policy (2017)**

We believe homework can be one way to reinforce learning which is undertaken in school. We also believe it should not limit family time so while the activities we send home are important and we expect them to be practised and completed we also trust that talking about what children are learning, playing games together and sharing interests is the foundation of a child’s attitude to learning. We also believe homework can be an effective way to –

* foster communication between home and school on ways of supporting and

 encouraging children to achieve.

* enable the children to practise skills and develop study techniques.
* help the children to realise their education is not confined to school.
* encourage the children to take responsibility for their learning
* prepare older children in school for the increasing homework demands they will

 encounter in future years.

Homework is aligned with the requirements of the National Curriculum.

**Reading**

We expect the children to read regularly *every day* at home. This does not have to be from the school reading scheme. For younger children we hope parents will share a book together daily and ask them questions to ensure they have understood. More able readers may read silently for sustained periods. They continue to benefit from adults discussing with them what they have read and asking them questions about the text. Children should make brief notes in their Reading Record to show what they have read and be ready to discuss in Guided Reading sessions with the teachers. We hope that families will support the children’s reading development throughout their time at the school.

* Adults who listen to a child read or who talk with the child about what they have read

should **record this in the child’s individual Reading Record Book** so we know it needs to be changed.

**Homework**

Other homework includes weekly phonics, spelling, times tables and number facts to practise and learn (Learn Its). Parents are encouraged to support their children in learning these elements, which are essential in ensuring educational progress and success.

**EYFS –** Reception children have a word list to practise in line with their Read Write Inc phonics for that week, and Learn Its Maths. Parents are encouraged to add any out of school activities to Tapestry so children can share their learning.

**KS1 and KS2**

Homework books should be ***returned to school every Thursday*** for teachers to prepare homework to hand out on the Friday. Learn Its Maths tests and spellings will be done weekly. Dictation may also be included. KS2 children must also learn their tables to 12.

**Spellings** are chosen according to the National Curriculum Requirements – children often spell words correctly in the test but need further practise to ensure consistency in their independent written work. You can extend spelling homework by writing sentences that include key words and ensuring handwriting is neat and correctly formed.

**Date of Policy: December 2016 Review Date: December 2018**