

Who do you contact with concerns and for clarity regarding your child's homework?

Primary

- Initial contact can be made with your child's classroom teacher, either by phone call, letter or by appointment.
- Further concerns can be made by contacting the Principal Teacher or DHT with responsibility for that child's class.
- **Wallace Hall Primary School Telephone Number: 01848 332140**

Secondary

- Initial contact can be made with your child's subject teacher, either by phone call or letter.
- Further concerns can be made by contacting the faculty Learning Leader or your child's Pupil Support teacher:

Learning Leader Subjects

Mr Riley RE, Geography, History, Modern Studies, Business / ICT

Dr Fulton Physics

Mrs Simpson Biology

Miss Carnochan Chemistry

Mr Miller Rural Skills

Mr Corrigan Design and Technology

Mr Dillon Physical Education, Home Economics

Mrs McMillan English, Modern Languages

Ms Beynon Drama, Music, Art

Mr Davidson Mathematics

Principal Teacher Pupil Support

Cairn: Mrs Fraser Nith: Mrs Miller Scaur: Mr Harrison

- **Wallace Hall Academy Telephone Number: 01848 332120**



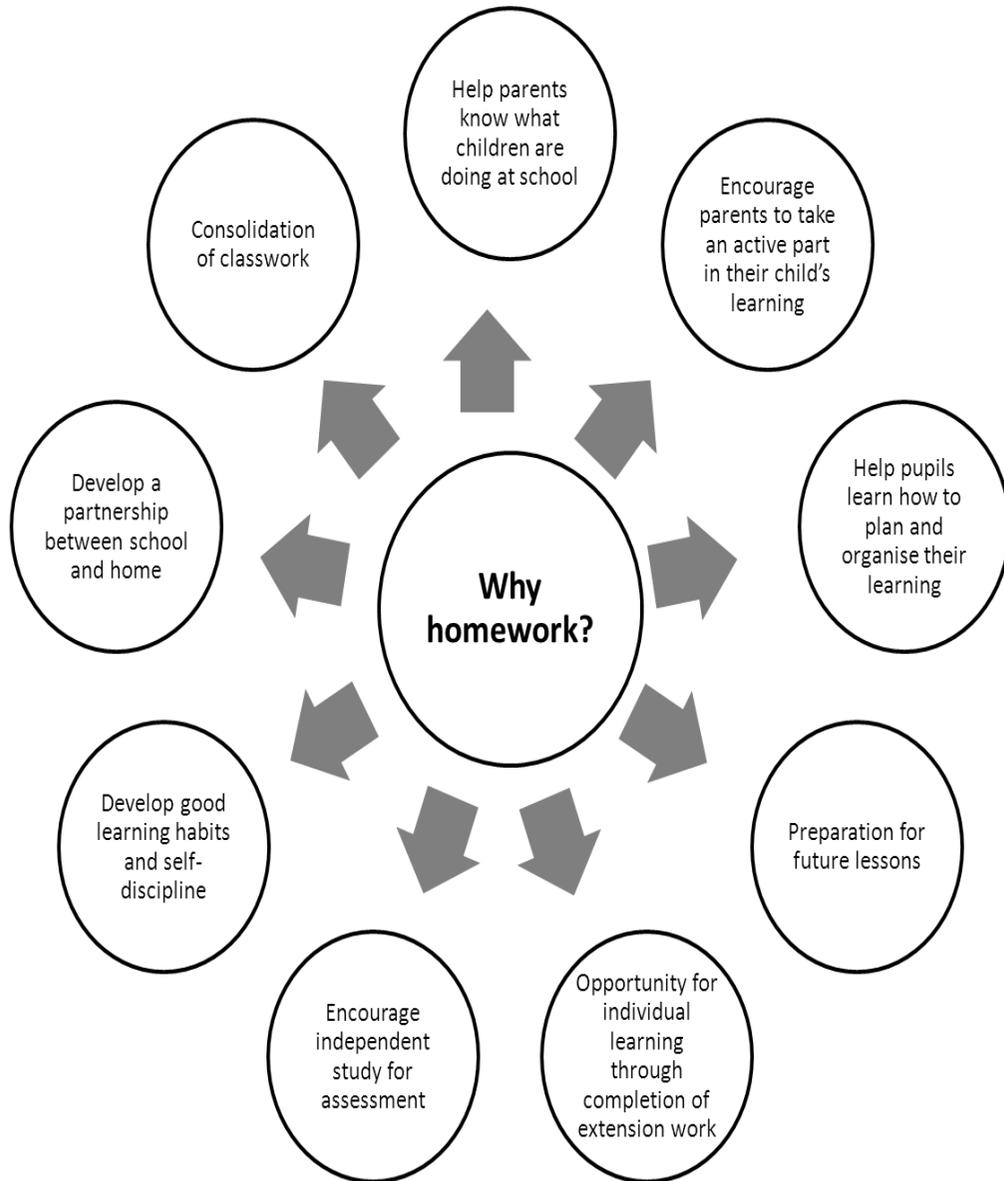
Wallace Hall



Homework Advice for Young People, Parents/Guardians, Teachers



Non-completion of homework in Secondary



Homework is recognised nationally as a highly effective vehicle for development and improvement.

If your child fails to complete a homework task on time without prior notification from home, they will:

- Be issued with a demerit which will make the parent/guardian aware of the non-completion. Thereafter the student will be instructed to hand the homework in the next day
- If homework is not handed in on the following day a further demerit will be issued and a detention or a punishment exercise will also be issued. Your child will be instructed to complete homework during a detention or possibly complete overnight, depending on the length of the homework.
- If homework is not completed by the next day your child will be referred to the relevant faculty's Learning Leader and contact will be made with home.
- Repeated non-completion of individual homework exercises will result in your child being referred to the relevant faculty's Learning Leader and contact will be made with home.

**This policy was written by staff from both
Wallace Hall Primary and Wallace Hall Academy.**

How much homework should my child be receiving in Secondary?

In Secondary the amount of homework issued will vary from time to time during the year. For example, your child will be expected to carry out more independent study in preparation for unit assessments and national examinations. Other homework tasks throughout the year will include extension work for reinforcement or completion of classwork.

Regardless of the time of year, however, there will always be work which your child can engage in at home. This could vary from consolidation of work in school, to background reading or research.

The amount of homework issued will vary. However, as a general guideline your child should be completing the following amount of homework per evening across all subjects:

- S1 - up to 45 minutes
- S2 - up to 1 hour
- S3 - up to 1 hour
- S4 - up to 90 minutes
- S5 - up to 2 hours
- S6 - up to 2 hours

Advice for parents

Key:

Primary

Secondary

Primary

- Make sure you are aware of any learning tasks your child has to complete (if in doubt, contact the school).
- Set aside a place and time for your child to complete homework.
- Try to make the homework a time when you work together with your child in a supportive atmosphere.
- If your child is not coping, or becoming stressed, STOP and contact the school the next day.
- Encourage the habit of reading and take it in turns to read passages with your child.
- Support your child with written work.
- Play word games, choose books together.
- Support any interests they have, it's not all about reading and writing!
- Use I.T. wherever possible.

Secondary

- Make sure you are aware of homework being issued by checking homework planners frequently (you should be signing your child's homework planner on a weekly basis).
- Ensure that your child has an area to complete their homework which is quiet and conducive to study and learning.
- Check that your child is completing homework to the best of their ability (remember you do not have to understand the content of all of the homework, but you should be aware when tasks have been completed satisfactorily—neat, tidy, sufficient detail).
- If your child is finding homework difficult or stressful, please contact the relevant staff member at school, or write a note in their homework planner.

How much homework should my child be receiving in the Primary School?

This may alter from time to time. For example, topic research may be asked for or revision may be required for consolidation of learning. Unfinished classwork may also be sent home for completion but if this happens on a regular basis you will be contacted by your child's teacher.

However, the general overview of homework regularly set by each class teacher is as follows:

- P1 Reading, Word Walls, Word Sheets, Phonics, Number Work (revision), approx. 3 x weekly.
- P2 Reading, Word Walls, Word Sheets (as required by each individual pupil approx. 3 x weekly), Phonics, Number Work (revision) 3/4 x weekly.
- P3 Reading, Phonics and Spelling (twice weekly), Number Work, including Tables Revision (once weekly).
- P4 Reading (twice weekly), Phonics, Spelling, Number Work, including Tables Revision (once weekly).
- P5 Spelling, Tables Revision, Maths/Number, Language, Topic Work and Support Reading (as required).
- P6 Spelling, Maths/Number, Language and Topic Work (as required), Support Reading (as required), Personal Project (twice per year).
- P7 Spelling and Test, Maths (once weekly), Topic Work, Language and Support Reading (as required), Personal Project (twice per year).

Teachers will clearly indicate what homework is to be done and when it should be handed back in to the teacher.

All Pupils in P1-P7 have either a Reading Record or Homework diary.

Differences between home reading and reading in class in the Primary School

Children read in groups with the teacher. They will have the same reading book for some time and are expected to read it at home. Some children will read just a little at a time while others will read a whole book in one day. It is important that they do read this book at home so that they are prepared for reading in class.

However, no matter how quickly they read the book at home, the teacher will work through the book over a number of weeks. This is because the book is used as a teaching tool. Pupils will learn about genre, they will look to see how the author builds up suspense or character, they will discuss the dialogue and they will try to predict what comes next and discuss reasons for the actions of characters. These and other skills will be practised in reading groups depending on the age of the pupils.

Pupils in P5-P7 use the Accelerated Reading Programme in class. This can be in addition to reading as part of a group.

Nothing improves reading more than reading. Please encourage your child to read more than just the "school handbook". Magazines, comic books, newspapers, instruction manuals all have their place (**and it's even better when you take turns at reading with them and talk to them about what they have read**).

Handy hints for spelling

Use the look, say, cover, write, check technique to practise the words (your child will know what this is).

When looking at the word they should say it exaggerating the syllables.

Beat or clap to count the syllables in a word.

Look for smaller words in the word (e.g. for/tune).

Test them on the words and then focus on any wrong spellings. **Mistakes are only learning opportunities.**

Help them to think of interesting sentences in which to use the word.