

HOMEWORK POLICY

VISION

At AJK, we want our pupils to be independent learners, full of curiosity about the world and equipped with the tools to investigate it. We believe it is essential that they master as soon as possible key knowledge and skills that will support them on this journey, developing from the outset positive habits towards learning outside of school.

WHY DO HOMEWORK?



EMBED KEY LEARNING

Homework at AJK is designed to ensure that all children master basic knowledge and skills, providing further opportunities for practice and retrieval.



STRENGTHEN HOME-SCHOOL LINKS

Learning does not just happen at school: our homework is designed to provide parents/carers with further opportunities to support their child(ren) academically.



DEVELOP HABITS

Setting homework is one of the ways in which we can help to create lifelong habits of independent learning and time management that will be essential in the future.

HOMEWORK RESOURCES

We use the following online programmes to support with home learning:



HOMEWORK AT AJK

EYFS

Scholars take home **high-frequency words** to practise every week and complete a **weekend diary**. Once appropriate, they take home a phonetically-decodable book matched to their phonics phase.

YEAR 1

Scholars receive **weekly spellings**, handed out on **Friday** and tested the following **Friday**. Scholars also receive a phonetically-decodable book, along with a book from class book corners to encourage reading for pleasure. Scholars complete a **weekend diary**, handed in on **Monday**.

YEARS 2-6

Scholars should complete **5 minutes a day** on **DoodleEnglish, DoodleSpell, DoodleMaths** and **TT Rockstars**. They should work on their personalised programme. Once a week, on **Tuesday**, teachers/TAs will check that scholars are in their 'green zones' on Doodle, following up as necessary.

On Friday, teachers will set an '**extra**' on **DoodleEnglish, DoodleSpell** and **DoodleMaths** linked to current objectives or objectives requiring further consolidation. These tasks may be differentiated as necessary. On **Tuesday**, teachers/TAs will check that these tasks have been completed.

All scholars should **read for at least 15 minutes a day**, ensuring they bring their current reading book into school every day.

HOMEWORK BOOKS

All scholars in Y2-Y6 have a homework book. However, these only need to be handed out if a teacher decides to set additional homework in another subject – or if a scholar does not have internet access and requires paper-based homework.

HOMEWORK FAQs

WHAT IF SCHOLARS DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS?

Paper versions of homework can be sent home on a Friday and collected on a Tuesday. It is recommended to use homework resources currently on the T Drive.

DO I HAVE TO SEND A SHEET HOME EACH WEEK EXPLAINING HOMEWORK TASKS?

No! A letter has been sent to parents explaining clearly the expectations around homework. The only exception to this is if teachers decide to set work in other subjects; in this case, any additional homework will require clarification.

WHY ARE WE SETTING SO MUCH HOMEWORK EVERY DAY?

We are expecting scholars to complete 5 minutes a day on *TTRS/Numbots*, *DoodleMaths*, *DoodleEnglish* and *DoodleSpell*, as well as 15 minutes of reading. There are two reasons for this. First, we believe that the online programmes are sufficiently engaging that they will not feel like 'work'. Secondly, we know from cognitive science research that little-but-often approaches to homework are most effective. In the past, we used to set extensive homework tasks over the weekend; this year, that homework load will be spread out evenly over the course of the entire week. As such, overall time spent on homework should not be significantly different from previous years at AJK.

IS DOODLE APPROPRIATE FOR EYFS AND YEAR 1?

Yes. Doodle have partnered with a number of infant schools to design tasks and a layout that is child-friendly and can be accessed by younger children. All questions are read aloud by the programme, allowing children to access tasks beyond their current reading level. For examples of some EYFS tasks, see the link below:

<https://twitter.com/RachelDoodle/status/1226935402998661125>

WHAT DO I DO IF A SCHOLAR DOES NOT COMPLETE THEIR HOMEWORK?

If a scholar is not in the 'green zone' by Tuesday, or does not complete an 'extra', they should receive a check for incomplete/no homework as per the behaviour policy (or move their name on the KS1 behaviour boards). In the first instance, however, teachers and TAs should check with the scholar to ensure that they have access to the internet and are able to complete the work. If not, alternative arrangements should be made.

I'M NOT SURE HOW TO RESET PASSWORDS, SET WORK, CHECK COMPLETION, MONITOR PROGRESS OR IDENTIFY GAPS

Please watch the short WTD videos here:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSxGSB-RKySWINVbVQn8v5gy1RffcjQz>