



# Burwell Village College Primary

Burwell Village College Primary School  
The Causeway  
Burwell  
Cambridgeshire  
CB25 0DU

Headteacher: Mr Antony Kern

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last term we started an initial investigation into homework and the current practice that occurs in school. We know that homework has many benefits and positive outcomes for children and families but also recognise that it can be a source of contention and sometimes conflict between home and school and between parents and children. We have been looking at some of the evidence we have in school around the type of homework that is being set, the expectations on children to complete it, how it is marked or fed back on and what happens when homework is not completed. We know that there is a varied experience across the school currently and we are working as a staff to make the expectations consistent.

The current school policy was reviewed at the last governing body meeting and the outcome of this review was that there needs to be significantly more work done in order to ensure that the policy is fit for purpose reflecting the current position of the school and that it matches practice. We recognise that at the moment, for example, some children in some year groups are completing their homework during lunchtime if it has not been completed at home. This is a very limited number of children and does not occur every week for most of them. This will continue to be at the class teacher's discretion until the new policy is agreed and in place. The current policy has been amended to reflect this.

There are a number of interventions that happen over lunchtime, e.g. reading and handwriting. These happen on a regular basis and are not the result of not completing homework activities. If your child says that they have been kept in at lunchtime to work with an adult it is likely that they are involved in one of these interventions rather than this being to complete homework. We are looking at ways to communicate this to parents more efficiently.

From the last consultation with parents we are aware that there are so many differing views about homework and its importance. We also recognise that this often changes as children move through the school. We want homework to have a positive effect on children and we recognise that families are very different in their make-up, their priorities and their time commitments so settling on a policy that works for the majority of pupils is important. We will also ensure that within any new policy there is clarity regarding the expectations that parents can have on the school and the consequences (or lack thereof) of not completing homework.

Your child will bring home a paper copy of a questionnaire in order for us to gather your views. We would be grateful if you could complete it and return it to your child's class teacher by Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Regards,

Antony Kern  
Headteacher

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