

HOMework HELP

At Polehampton, Years 3 & 4 have a choice-mat for their homework.

From this term, Years 5 & 6 will have a more formal set-up.

Year 5 will have two pieces of homework that come home each week and Year 6 will use a homework diary in preparation for secondary school.



Research suggests that spending too much time on homework can have a negative impact on progress. As many of you will know, from experience, spending too long is also not good for the wellbeing of your child and/or family.

We suggest the following time frames for each year group (this excludes reading and TT Rockstars) and can be spread out over a week:

Year 3: 20 Minutes

Year 4: 25 Minutes

Year 5: 30 Minutes

Year 6: 45 Minutes (Inc. 15 minutes revision books)

KEY MESSAGES

Reading	Writing	Maths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask your child questions about the text; focus on 'why' questions and ask them to give reasons that are not written into the text e.g. opinion based on text, using information gathered from the story Encourage your child to notice and use punctuation to alter their expression Encourage your child to notice interesting vocabulary, check that they understand - ask if they have read any new/ unknown words/or know any synonyms that could be used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage clear handwriting, focus especially on vowel sounds being legible Check high frequency/common words are spelt correctly Always check for capital letters and a variety of punctuation Encourage a mixture of sentence structures (some long and some short - for impact) Always encourage your child to spend some of their time editing their work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure your child is showing any working-out that is necessary Encourage them to spot shortcuts (e.g. notice number bonds, time tables) Refer back to the calculation policy for what is taught in your child's year group Focus on the process rather than the product - "How did you work that out?" "How did you know to do that?" "Where have you used that before?" (See next page)



Please use the Knowledge Organisers you have been sent, to help with content and key learning/vocabulary. It will help you ascertain what your child has already covered.

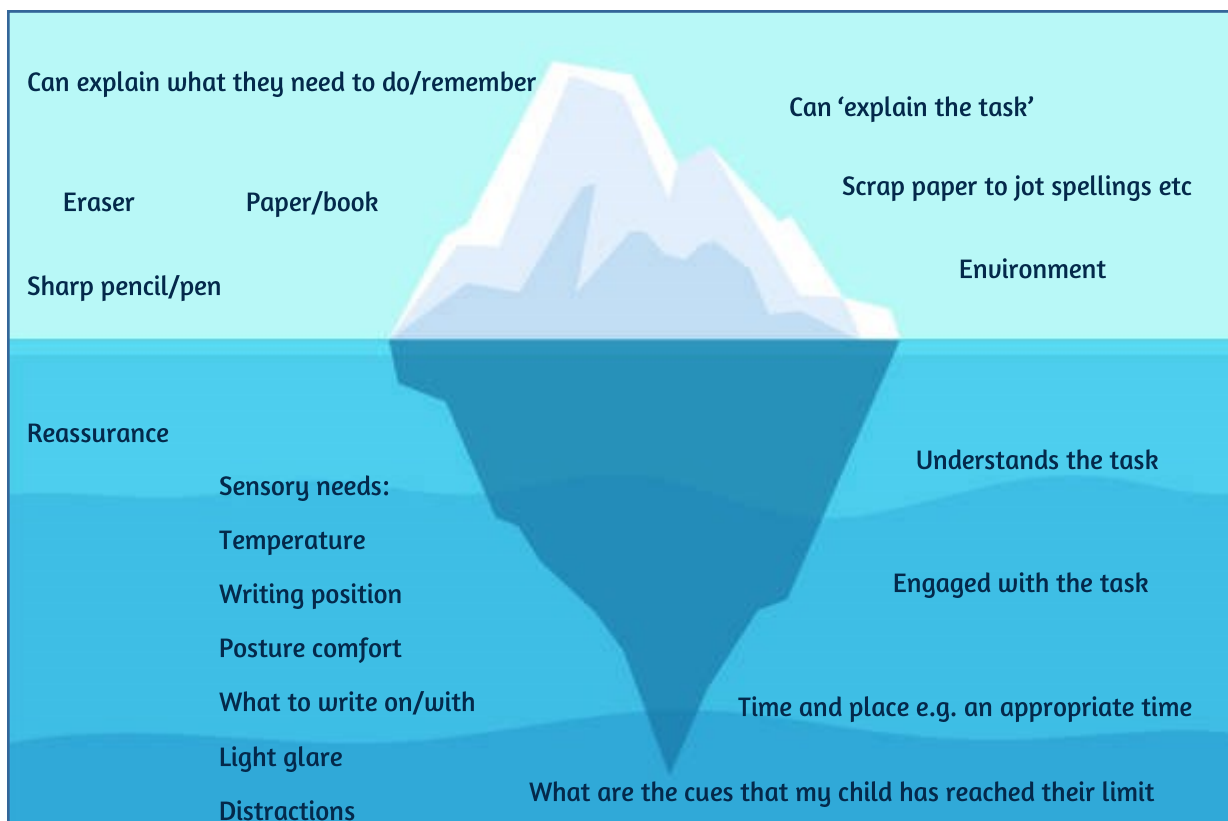
METACOGNITION



Here are some very helpful questions you can ask your child while they do their homework.

BEFORE	DURING	AFTER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you already know? • What is this question asking you to do? • What level of challenge will this be? • How can you organize your information? • What is the best way to tackle this task? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this making sense? • Is your strategy working? • Are you using the best tools? • What connections are you making? • What predictions do you have? • Are you making progress? • Do you need to slow down? • What do you understand so far? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What helped you to understand? • Where did you struggle? • How did you overcome challenges? • How could you have tackled this differently? • How will this information help you in the future?
Connie Hamilton, Author of <i>Hacking Questions</i>		HACKINGQUESTIONS.COM

Things to consider for homework:



Many of us are parents who experience both the joy and battle of homework. We know that **everything isn't always possible** and that every family has different systems to manage homework. We hope that there is at least one thing here that everyone can take away.

HOME READING



Year 3	In Year 3, children are expected to read to an adult 5 times a week. This should be recording in their reading diaries. Reading diaries are checked on a weekly basis.
Year 4	In Year 4, children are expected to read to an adult a minimum of 3 times a week. This should be recording in their reading diaries. Reading diaries are checked on a Monday.
Year 5	In Year 5, children are expected to read to themselves on a daily basis and to an adult 3 times a week - this can be recorded in the sheet in their homework books. Teachers will check this on a weekly basis.
Year 6	In Year 6, all children are expected to read to themselves on a daily basis and that on three occasions throughout the week, that this is done with an adult and recorded in homework diaries. Teachers will check homework diaries on a weekly basis.

Please don't underestimate the power of picture books; and reading them to your older children! When the have them read out in assemblies and in classes, they are absolutely mesmerised ...

Here are some book suggestions:

Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	

Enjoy!