

## Tips for supporting children with Homework

- ☺ Ask the school for a homework timetable, so that you know what homework should be coming home.
- ☺ Mark the current week with a paper clip or bookmark.
- ☺ Write the subjects in for each day.
- ☺ Check the child's diary regularly.
- ☺ Set aside a regular homework time each day. Negotiate this with the child and build in some "down time".
- ☺ Ensure that the child understands the homework task. Talk it through.
- ☺ Set a time frame for the homework to be completed. If it is not complete, write a note to the teacher explaining.
- ☺ Provide a quiet place for homework, where the child can work effectively but try and be on hand to support if needed.
- ☺ Break the tasks down into manageable chunks – for example, if it is a piece of writing, break it down into planning, writing in sections, checking. If it is a list of spellings to be learned, try learning two at a time, rather than all in one go.
- ☺ Help your child prioritise homework. It may work best to tackle the most difficult piece first.
- ☺ Communicate with the child's school over any difficulties he/she is having.
- ☺ Can someone check he /she is writing homework down – the teacher, a TA or a homework buddy?
- ☺ Is there any other way homework can be communicated –for example, via the school internet?
- ☺ Can the child word-process homework?
- ☺ Are alternative forms of recording acceptable – for example, instead of writing, can the child present a timeline, mind-map, story-board, Power point presentation, poster, voice recording?
- ☺ Can the parent/carer act as a scribe?
- ☺ Try to keep homework as positive as possible. On completion, look at it together and decide on three good things about it and two that could be improved next time