

Homework in the Primary School: Questionnaire for Parents

When answering questions, please place a clear 'X' inside the box that most nearly reflects your opinion, one for each question. Please complete a separate form for each child you have in school, as your answers might be different. If you complete more than one form please return them together. Your completed form(s) should be returned via your child's class teacher. Thank you.

About your child: Boy Girl

Class: 1 2 3 4

N.B. Please complete one form for each child.

Number of returned forms: 1 2 3 4

Please answer the questions for yourself or, if appropriate, for you and your partner. One 'X' for each question unless indicated otherwise please.

1) What do you think about the *amount* of homework your child gets?

- It's usually too much.
- It's usually about right.
- It's usually too little.
- It varies too much to say.
- Don't know.

2) How difficult does your child usually find his/her homework?

- It's usually too easy.
- It's usually about right.
- It's usually too hard.
- It varies too much to say.
- Don't know.

3) "My child learns a lot from doing his/her homework."

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|

4) "Doing homework helps my child to be independent."

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|

5) "My child knows what he/she has to do for homework:"

- | | | | | |
|--------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|
| Always | Usually | Sometimes | Never | Not sure |
|--------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|

6) "I see my child's homework:"

- | | | | | |
|--------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|
| Always | Usually | Sometimes | Never | Not sure |
|--------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|

7) "The school should do more to explain why children are set homework."

- Definitely, I've little idea why it's set.
- Yes, greater clarity would help.
- Not really, I think I know why it's set.
- No, I know what it's for.

8) "Homework for primary age children is a waste of time."

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|

9) Which of these statements best describes your thoughts about homework?

- I've not really thought about it before.
- I've had concerns about homework and have discussed them with my child's teacher.
- I've had concerns about homework but have not discussed them with my child's teacher.
- I've thought existing arrangements are fine so have had no reason to raise any concerns.
- Something else? (Please say what.)

10) "My child usually enjoys doing his/her homework."

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|

11) "Homework is a source of tension at home."

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Very often | Often | Sometimes | Never |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|

12) "I talk with my child about the homework he/she is doing."

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Very often | Often | Sometimes | Never |
|------------|-------|-----------|-------|

Continued overleaf...

13) Which of these statements best describes what you think your child would usually say about doing a piece of homework?

"I took time over it and thought about what I did."

"I didn't do it."

"I did more than I really needed to because it was interesting."

"I did it quickly to get it out of the way."

Don't know

14) "I help my child with his/her homework."

Very often Often Sometimes Never

15) "I have to remind my child to do homework."

Very often Often Sometimes Never

16) "I leave my child to get on with it."

Very often Often Sometimes Never

17) Do you want to know what homework your child has been set?

No. It's my child's responsibility.

Not really. If I want to know I can ask my child.

Yes, my child tells me what he/she has to do. That's enough.

Always. And I should be able to check for myself.

18) "I worry that I might be doing things that are unhelpful or harmful to my child's learning."

Very often Often Sometimes Never

19) "I feel that I don't have enough knowledge to help my child with his/her homework."

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree Don't know

20) Which of these sources of advice on homework (if any) would you welcome and use if available? (Please indicate as many as apply.)

Information leaflets

Parents' workshops in the evening

Information pages on the school's Website

None of the above

Something else? (Please say what.)

21) Which topics (if any) would you welcome advice on? (Please indicate as many as apply.)

Reading with my child

Learning spellings at home

Learning maths facts at home

None of the above

Something else? (Please say what.)

22) If a primary age child fails to do homework then:

Parents should be told immediately.

Parents should be told if it happens repeatedly.

There should be no further action.

Homework should be completed in playtimes/lunchtimes.

Something else. (Please say what.)

23) "It's good for the relationship between me and my child to talk about homework."

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree Not sure

24) Which of these statements best describes your attitude to your child's homework?

It's great: I often enjoy the chance it gives me to do things with my child.

I resent it: I don't think school should be telling my child what to do at home.

It's okay: sometimes I'm involved and I'm happy with that.

I'm not really involved but I think it's a good thing for my child to do.

Something else? (Please say what.)

I would be happy to discuss homework with someone from the school. Please contact me.

Thank you for your help