







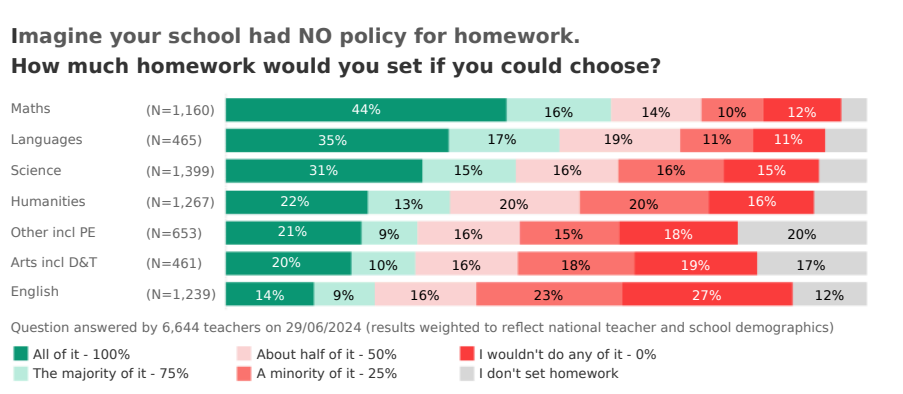
Teacher Tapp Insights #2:

Homework

From reading with parents to exam revision: children completing school work at home is an expected part of school life. But how do different schools organise their homework? And what do teachers think about the approaches being used?

Key Statistics from Teacher Tapp

<p>Teachers working in schools in disadvantaged areas are more likely to say they don't set homework.</p> 	<p>87% of maths teachers believe homework helps their pupils...compared to 63% of English teachers.</p> 	<p>Reception and KS1 teachers have the most children saying their homework was fun (45%)... science had the least (3%).</p> 	<p>1-in-4 secondary teachers think children should only start having homework at age 14!</p> <p>However, 1-in-5 primary teachers think homework should start from age 10.</p>
<p>Science teachers are the most likely to say their pupils never like their homework (closely followed by English).</p> 	<p>Reading (with a parent or on their own) was the favourite choice of homework by primary teachers.</p> 	<p>44% of secondary teachers admit to losing homework!</p> 	<p>1-in-5 secondary teachers give detentions for late homework...even if it is the first time that's happened!</p>



What homework would be set if teachers were free to do what they wanted?

Overall, 63% of teachers wanted to set less homework - with 27% wanting "none at all".

However, there are differences within subjects.

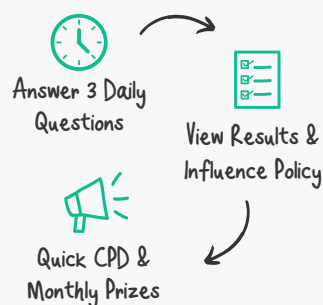
Maths teachers were the most likely to want to carry on setting the same amount of homework (44%) and English teachers were the least likely (14%).

TALKING POINT: Is your school or department policy designed for an average week, or your busiest week?

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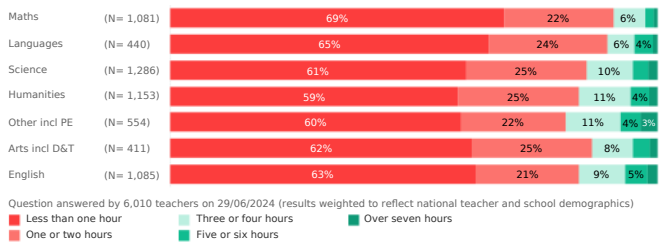
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This week, roughly how long did you spend on activities related to students' homework - eg setting, marking, chasing?



If teachers are keen to shed some of their homework workload, how much time would abandoning it save? Time spent varied greatly, but overall maths teachers were the most likely to spend less than one hour in total on homework-related tasks (69%).



TALKING POINT: If you're using technology for homework setting or monitoring, does your system add to your teachers' workload? What do parents think of it? What is your success criteria to judge its effectiveness?

"Different subjects view homework differently. Why? One reason could be varying completion rates, another could be that the link between homework that is set and success (either short-term in the classroom or long-term in assessments and learning) may not be obvious in certain subjects. School policies and discussions on homework need to consider teacher value and views on homework, aligning these to the purpose and goals of homework in different subjects."

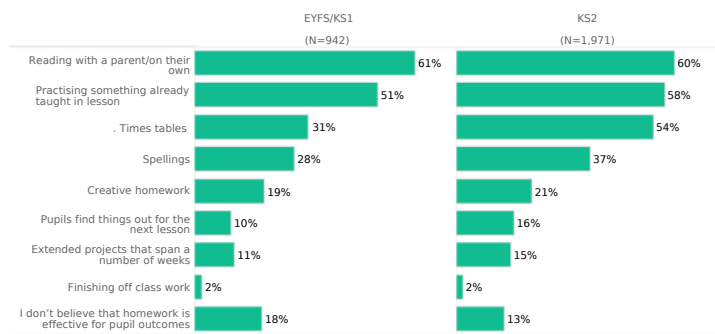
Dr Jo Castelino, author of 'The Homework Conundrum'.

Not all homework tasks are equal - teachers believe some have more value than others. Primary teachers' opinions on the best types of homework only slightly differ when we split by key stage. The top three types of homework for both EYFS/KS1 and KS2 teachers included reading (61% and 60%), practising something already taught in lessons (51% and 57%) and times tables (31% and 54%).



TALKING POINT: If NONE of your students completed homework at home, how would you change your approach in school? What do you know about students who aren't doing homework, and what are you doing as a school to improve engagement?

Which type of homework do you think best help pupil outcomes?

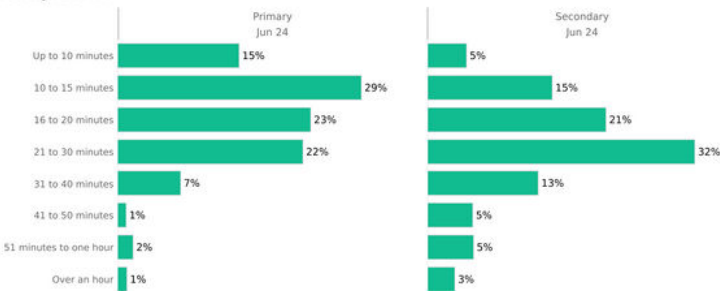


Question answered by 2,984 teachers on 21/06/2024 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

"How long a student spends on the homework is important, but it's more important that the homework is linked to the curriculum and a high-quality task. If possible, try and watch a student complete that homework so you can see what the time is spent on and if you think it's a worthwhile use of the time."

Adam Boxer, teacher and co-presenter of Edu-podcast 'They Behave for Me'.

Think of the last homework you set, how long would a fully-concentrating pupil take to complete it?



Teacher responses vary from 2,319 to 6,177, depending on date asked (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

When setting homework time is a consideration. Older pupils have competing time commitments, while at primary there may be parental involvement. Secondary teachers are less likely to set a homework task that takes 15 minutes or less to complete compared to primary teachers (44% vs 20%). When filtering by subject, maths teachers were the most likely to set homework lasting more than 50 minutes (8%).



TALKING POINT: What is the ideal length of homework from a student perspective? How long should teachers spend marking homework? Does every piece of homework always have to be marked?

