



Home Learning Policy

Introduction

Home learning plays a valuable part in education, representing an extension and consolidation of the learning opportunities provided in school. However, a pupil's time away from school must also be respected. We recognise that the majority of pupils have regular commitments, including sporting and artistic activities, hobbies, family activities and an entitlement to "play", which in itself provides opportunities for the development of both social, and other, skills. With this in mind, our school provides home learning opportunities and activities and the consent of parents is sought through our Home School Agreement.

We believe that the setting of home learning tasks enables parents to support the development of good independent learning skills in the early years of a child's education. There are also skills taught at school which can be developed with "rote learning", a time demanding activity that requires little input from teachers e.g. learning of number bonds or multiplication tables. Home learning enables parents to become closely involved with their child's educational development and with the work that their children are engaged in at school. Further opportunities are available through open days, Curriculum News and information packs on the strategies and methods currently used in our school.

Aims

- to encourage pupils to develop independent learning skills
- to develop and consolidate skills learned at school
- to open up areas of study and to make use of materials and sources of information that may not be accessible in the classroom
- to provide opportunities for parents to become more closely involved in their children's learning

Approximate Time Allocation for Home Learning

Years 3 and 4	Approximately 1.5 hours per week	(Literacy and Numeracy, with occasional assignments in other subjects)
Years 5 and 6	Approximately 30 minutes per day	(Regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy but also ranging widely over the Curriculum)

Completion of Home Learning

Pupils are expected to complete their home learning on time, as set out in the Home School Agreement. If they fail to do so, they may be required to complete their home learning at lunchtime, particularly if the task has been set as a preview to a lesson, or to consolidate a concept. Where pupils do not have access to a PC or Laptop, class teachers will make provision for pupils to access a school computer.

Regular Home Learning

Regular home learning tasks are set in Literacy and Numeracy. The number of activities set each week increases as the pupils' progress from Year 3 to Year 6. Other subject areas may require some research, for example, gathering information about the local community or talking to parents or grandparents. As children progress through the school they may be expected to find out information, prepare oral presentation, read in preparation for lessons or complete more traditional written tasks.

At the start of the autumn term the timetable is shared with parents at the Curriculum Information Evening and published as the back page of each Curriculum News Brochure. These are also available on the Learning Platform.

Homework Club

Those pupils allocated pupil premium funding will have access to Homework Club. This club runs once per week and is led by a teacher and member of the learning support team. The Club provides pupils with access to teaching support and the necessary resources to successfully complete home learning tasks, practise reading and develop ICT skills. Once individual tasks are completed, pupils then have access to educational resources such as online activities and board games.

Recording of Home Learning

Home learning diaries are provided so that pupils are able to record tasks and to enable parents to monitor the work set. The Leadership Team will audit Home Learning Books and Diaries regularly to ensure consistency across year groups/classes. In addition, Governors will carry out annual checks on Home Learning books and diaries.

Assessment

Home learning tasks are reviewed by the class teacher or maths set teacher. When appropriate, they may be marked within the class, by the teacher or with a talk partner.

Reading

All pupils benefit from regular periods of reading at home. For those children still developing basic skills, listening to their reading will be appropriate in order to support decoding and understanding. For the fluent reader, this time may enable them to experience increasing complexity of text and meaning. Books may be borrowed from classroom bookshelves and our Library.

HISTORY

Date	Reference	Amendments
15.02.13		Reference to the DCSF was removed as was reference to government guidelines. Information regarding the Homework Club has been included. There have been some formatting changes.