

November 2010  
Signed (Chair of Governors) .....  
Date accepted by Governors .....  
Review Date .....



## Home Learning Policy

### Aims

- To raise standards of achievement.
- To develop the partnership between home and school.
- To develop a positive attitude towards independent learning.
- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.

### The Purpose of Home Learning

- To consolidate, reinforce, support and extend children's learning.
- To provide opportunities for parents, children and school to work in partnership.
- To encourage children to develop confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.
- To enable children to use and apply learning in 'real' contexts not possible in school.

Home Learning should not prevent children from participating in activities after school such as sport, music, drama and other extra-curricular clubs.

### Home Learning at Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1

Parents of Reception children already use everyday situations as learning opportunities to develop skills in speaking and listening or problem-solving, e.g. playing board games to improve cooperation and social skills. These continue throughout the Stages. Sharing books for short periods of time stimulates interest and enjoyment and encourages literacy.

#### Activities

The Home Learning activities support and complement the learning taking place in school. Many of these activities will not need any form of recording.

#### Communication

The home/school book is used as means of communication between parents and teachers. Acknowledgement of **effort** and **learning** is recorded as well as any concerns or problems.

### Home Learning at Key Stage 2

The main purpose of Home Learning at Key Stage 2 is to continue the dialogue between home and school and to develop skills of independent learning.

#### Timing

The precise amount of time spent on Home Learning is less important than the quality of tasks set to support learning and the development of a positive attitude towards the learning and its completion, developing persistence, resilience and reflective thinking skills.

#### Activities

Home Learning given to KS2 children gradually increases in demands and, as well as regular reading, spelling and multiplication tables, practice will include:

- Tasks related to numeracy.
- Finding out information.
- Reading in preparation for lessons.
- Preparing oral presentations.

- A variety of written assignments.

Presentation of Home Learning can include a variety of formats including writing, drama, ICT, speaking and listening and others, depending on the learning objectives.

### **Communication**

Children are expected to adopt a responsible attitude towards managing Home Learning. Year 6 are expected to write and record their own tasks in preparation for the transition to High School.

### **The Role of the Parent**

Parents are asked to ensure that tasks are undertaken at a suitable time, in a quiet and peaceful environment. They can give their children support and encouragement, making it clear that they value learning done at home. Parents' input will change as their children grow older and develop increasing independence in their learning.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Tasks are differentiated to match the needs of individual children when appropriate. Class teachers, under the guidance of the S.E.N. Coordinator, ensure that tasks neither demand too much nor too little of children with special educational needs. Reasonable adjustments are made to ensure access to the curriculum for pupils with disabilities.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Home Learning is set for all children regardless of ability, gender or culture.

The arrangements for Home Learning are monitored by staff to evaluate children's progress and attitude to learning. Parents' views are sought during formal and informal discussion. Their comments are noted and taken into consideration when the policy is reviewed.