



Overfields Primary School

Home learning Policy

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HOME LEARNING POLICY

Home Learning describes work which is set to be completed outside the school timetable and represents an extension of the learning activities provided and organised through the school curriculum.

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. At Overfields Primary School we believe that Home Learning is important. It is a direct way of more closely involving parents in their child's education and gives pupils the opportunity to practise at home the tasks done in class. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school, and in adult life.

Teachers recognise that home learning has greater success when pupils and parents value it. We believe that it is important that children bring "work" home from a fairly young age so that links between home and school can be developed and enhanced.

Home Learning can:-

- Directly involve parents in children's learning
- Foster a productive home-school partnership
- Develop a positive attitude to learning as a life skill rather than just a school-based skill
- Allow children additional time to complete tasks or practise skills learned at school
- Utilise materials not available in the classroom
- Allow older children the opportunity for independent study and research

Home Learning will involve tasks of a wide and varied nature which may involve some of the activities outlined below:-

- Sharing books from home or school with a parent, adult or sibling
- Talking about topics from school and discussing activities suggested by the teacher
- Learning tables, number bonds, spelling etc
- In key stage 2 researching a topic and making notes using resources at home
- Making plans and collecting things for experiments at school
- Bringing interesting artefacts to school
- Learning poems or songs and practising for school assemblies or concerts

FOUNDATION STAGE – Nursery and Reception

Children attending the Nursery will not be set homework in the formal way.

However it is expected that parents will:-

- Encourage the children to find out and learn more about the topics which the EYFS setting is exploring (and which will be on the termly newsletter)
- Bring in things to show and talk about for the weekly colour and sound tables
- Foster an interest in reading through the sharing of books and reading stories regularly
- Facilitate visits to the library
- Inspire a general interest in the world through varied experiences and outings
- Teach skills that will enable children to develop the appropriate level of independence before entering mainstream school

Children attending our Reception Class will be encouraged to do all of the above. They will also be sent home with keywords (action words) to learn to read and spell and a reading book. We ask that parents listen to their children read every night and to record any comments in the child's Reading Record booklet with a signature.

Key Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2

Children in Year 1 and 2 will bring home their reading book every night with the expectation that they will read to an adult and have the record signed. They will also bring home keywords (action words) and then spellings. Any maths home learning will be based on number bonds and times tables.

Key Stage 2

Key stage 2 pupils will bring home weekly spellings to learn, times tables and their reading book (as above).

As the children move into Year 6 they will be given further home learning with a focus on Literacy and Numeracy as revision for the National tests in May. This increase in expectation of learning completed at home also supports readiness for the increased demands of Secondary school.

Across school we may also occasionally give children home learning tasks which support a particular subject or topic. For example, they may make Viking boats to test in a sailing race in school or design a fitness poster during Healthy Living Week. We may ask them to keep a diary during a school holiday or to look for, and record, the weights and measures they see in the supermarket . All of these tasks are planned to support learning in school and to encourage parent support.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE PUPILS

It is expected that all pupils will participate in home learning from the time they start school. Pupils and parents sign a Home School Agreement when they start school which states the expectation to complete home learning activities.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE PARENTS

Parents can support their child by discussing their home learning tasks with them. Hearing your child read regularly and discussing the text with them is extremely important. Parents can also support their children by helping them learning spelling, number bonds etc.

EXPECTATION OF THE SCHOOL

Teachers will undertake to ensure home learning is monitored through checking the reading record and testing action words, spellings and times tables. They will also plan some meaningful, stimulating, varied and interesting which families can do at home to support learning. Teachers will provide support and guidance for pupils who need it.

Home learning activities will not be provided for absentees except in exceptional circumstance. Home learning activities will not be provided for children if they are taken on holiday during term time.

If Parents / Carers have any questions about home learning please do not hesitate to see the class teacher. Further guidance and support around home learning is discussed at parents evenings which are held termly.

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

September 2016

OVERFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL - HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

FAMILY

CHILD

SCHOOL

We will try our best to:

Will try my best to:

We will try our best to:

I _____

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the school in promoting good behaviour and a positive attitude to learning• Ensure our child attends regularly and on time, informing school of reasons for absence• Make the school aware of any concern or problem that might affect our child's learning or behaviour• Support the school's home learning policy and provide our child with opportunities to learn at home• Attend school consultations and events which inform and celebrate our child's achievements and progress• Make sure our child wears school uniform and has a P.E. kit | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn as well as I can at all times• Be well-mannered and well-behaved• Respect, help and care for others• Listen carefully to all adults and each other• Be responsible for my own belongings and respect other people's belongings• Complete home learning | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide the highest standard of education possible• Maintain a safe, friendly and secure environment• Ensure that your child feels valued as a member of our school community• Make you, as a family, feel welcome and keep you informed of your child's progress, needs and achievements• Encourage your child to do their best at all times• Encourage all children to take care of themselves, each other and their surroundings• Keep parents informed of school activities and events |
|--|---|--|

PARENT _____

CHILD _____

SCHOOL _____