

Ryarsh Primary School

Home Learning Policy

The purpose of home learning is:

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend learning, particularly in English and Maths.
- To promote a higher level of engagement across a broad range of curriculum areas.
- To develop an effective partnership between our school and parents and other carers in supporting children's learning.
- To develop children's confidence, independence and study skills, which also prepares them for the expectations of Secondary school.

Approach

- Home learning builds on work done in the classroom, enabling the class teacher and the parent to confirm that the child has an understanding of a subject and reinforcing and deepening children's learning. Our approach to home learning helps children to build up their long term memory by developing children's recall of knowledge and skills.
- The broader evidence base suggests that short focused tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught, and which are built upon in school, are most effective (Education Endowment Foundation).
- The purpose of the homework needs to be made clear to children and parents.
- If a teacher sets homework there is an expectation that this will be completed by the set date.
- Home learning should be interesting, creative and (where appropriate) differentiated.
- Most home learning tasks will focus on daily bursts of English and Mathematics. Weekly homework will focus on the wider curriculum. Termly home learning opportunities will be based around History or Geography.
- Home learning should be provided on a consistent basis, with sufficient time allowed for the completion of the task. Children will be given clear instructions about the activity to be undertaken.

Communication with Parents

- The homework task sheets contain a feedback box for parents and children to fill in.
- At our "Meet the Teacher" sessions, every class teacher will give a presentation to parents to explain the work to be covered, what is expected from the children and the approach to home learning.
- This is an important part of the communication process, giving parents the opportunity to ask questions about any aspect of class activity.
- Teachers may feel this is an appropriate opportunity to offer advice or hints on how parents can help their child to learn spellings and tables.
- Children will be provided with a reading record which is used for recording children's reading at home.
- Other forms of home-school communication include email, notes in home learning books, letters and meetings.
- Workshops will also be offered throughout the year to help parents support the children at home.

Summary

Children in **Reception** will be set daily phonics and maths tasks at the end of each week. Curriculum homework will be set fortnightly and topic homework will be set termly. The curriculum homework should take children approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Children in **Year 1** will be set daily phonics, spelling and maths tasks at the end of each week. Curriculum homework will be set weekly and topic homework (History/Geography) will be set termly. The curriculum homework should take children approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Children in **Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6** will be set daily reading, spelling and maths tasks at the end of each week. Curriculum homework will be set weekly and topic homework (History/Geography) will be set termly. The curriculum homework should take children approximately 20 minutes to complete in year 2; 30 minutes for children to complete in year 3-4 and 40 minutes for children to complete in years 5-6.

In all year groups, any curriculum home learning will be set on a Friday to be handed in by the following Wednesday. This will provide teachers with some time to look at the work that the children have completed in their home learning journals.

Optional home learning related to the **Topic** will be set at the start of each term (for children in Years 1-6). These home learning tasks will be connected to the History or Geography learning taking place in class during the term and will involve a range of creative and project-based learning tasks for children to complete at home.

From Year 2, children will be expected to learn and practise **times tables** at home. Tasks may be set to support this and further details on the Ryarsh Times Tables mountain are available via the school website.

Please note that **spellings** will be practised within English lessons and then reinforced at home.

Homework club

A drop-in Home Learning club is available to all children on Monday lunchtimes to provide support for home learning to be completed within school.

*** This will not be available at the start of September 2020 due to government guidance put in place in light of the outbreak of coronavirus.*

Reading

Children in **all year groups** should read at home every day. Reading books for Year R, 1 and 2 will be changed regularly in class (at least twice each week) and will follow the progression within the Oxford Reading Tree Scheme.

Presentation

Children should be encouraged to present their work neatly at all times. Children who write in pen in school may also write in pen to complete home learning tasks.

Where appropriate, examples of home learning will be recorded in the children's home learning journal.

Children in reception and year 1 should use a pencil for the majority of their tasks (unless guided otherwise). Children from year 2 – year 6 should use pen and pencil as appropriate and in line with our presentation policy.

Feedback

Teachers will analyse all of the work that has been recorded in the home learning journal and this will help inform future teaching. The work completed as part of the weekly curriculum task will receive feedback appropriate to the age of the child. This may include written feedback, verbal feedback, use of stickers and the use of Headteacher Awards.

Role of the Parent

As part of our home-school partnership, we are very keen for parents to support children with their home learning. We trust that our parents will support and encourage their child by giving time and a home environment in which homework can be done. The class teacher will, as far as possible, ensure that the child is completely clear on what they are expected to do at home so that children are able to communicate this to their parents.

Children benefit enormously from being able to discuss what they have done with their parents. This is not to suggest that parents should spend time altering or correcting their child's work but rather discuss it and suggest how it might be done differently or improved. Constructive feedback enables children to develop a better understanding of the work and reinforce what is taught in school.

If children find a home learning task particularly engaging or difficult, then parents may like to make a note of this in the home learning book to let the class teacher know.

Above all other subjects, reading is a crucial skill which needs to be encouraged at all times. Fluency and confidence at reading has an impact on many other areas of the primary curriculum. Therefore we would ask parents to try to hear their child read as often as possible, to discuss the plot and characterisation and ask the child questions about what has been read. Younger children need to be heard on a regular daily basis, but older children may be expected to read independently and silently to themselves.

All children benefit from parents taking an interest in their learning. It is hoped that parents will support the school in encouraging their children to develop a responsible attitude to their homework.

Policy adopted by Governing Body	Summer 2020
To be reviewed	Summer 2023
Signed by Head Teacher	
Signed by Chair of Governors	