

Home-School Learning Policy

Written by: Carl Rogers February 2024

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This policy has been devised after consultation with staff, parents and children.

What is Home-School Learning?

Home-School Learning is anything that children do outside of the normal school day that contributes to their learning in school. This encompasses a variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support a child's learning.

Rationale

At Whittington CE Primary School we believe that Home-School Learning is an integral part of education. We believe that it:

- encourages collaboration between children, teachers and parents
- develops the skills of independence that are so highly valued at our school
- allows all children the opportunity to consolidate and extend the learning that takes place at in school and at home
- enables children to make improved progress in their academic and social development
- can provide educational experiences and opportunities that are not available in school
- encourages children to take responsibility for their learning and develops working habits that will be required throughout their education

As well as believing in the importance of Home-School Learning, we also acknowledge the importance of free time in a child's growth and development. **This policy focuses on the school's approach toward the setting of homework that contributes to Home-School Learning.**

In order for Home-School Learning to have the most positive impact, homework needs to be:

- enjoyable and rewarding for children
- age-appropriate and challenging
- fully supported by parents
- valued by children, parents and teachers

Homework is **not**:

- to be set without a clear purpose
- too time-consuming
- an add-on
- boring

Additional information

- Homework is regularly monitored by Senior Leaders to ensure that it is line with school policy.
- Individual children may occasionally be set additional homework if the teachers feel it will be of benefit. This will always be agreed with parents.
- Specific class information (i.e. days that homework is set / to be given in) is available on the class web pages
- If a child is having difficulties with homework, speak to the class teacher as soon as possible.
- All written homework that is submitted will be marked in accordance with our Marking and Feedback policy.
- Our philosophy towards the keeping of deadlines is based upon positive reinforcement and praise for those that get homework in on time. In KS2 children may be asked to complete homework during a break time if a deadline is not kept in order for them to learn the importance of responsibility. Where this is the case, parents will always be informed in advance on the first occasion.

Homework				
	Daily	Weekly		Other
R	<p>Reading to and with children - phonics flashcards, phonics reading books, reading quality texts to/with children</p> <p>Read Write Inc sound books</p>	<p>Letter formation – best done practically (shaving foam/sand/water-pistols etc) to engage gross and fine motor skills and to excite children</p> <p>Bear/ Bus words</p>	<p>Talk Topic – Each week there is a challenge set during the morning Head of School Worship that can be discussed at home .</p>	<p>Thematic parent/child projects based upon in-class learning – this may include research, shared activities, craft or other projects that teachers think will support and extend learning.</p>
Y1		<p>Letter formation – best done practically (shaving foam/sand/water-pistols etc) to engage gross and fine motor skills and to excite children</p> <p>Edshed (Spelling) – We encourage the children to try and get on Edshed a number of times each week in order to practice spelling the words they are learning in school.</p>		
Y2		<p>Year 2 begin rehearsing Times tables facts during the second half of the Spring term. They can log on and use Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) or practice another way such as verbally or writing facts down.</p>		
Y3	<p>Reading to and with children – school reading books, library books, magazines. We love to see children reading every day. Try to talk to children about their reading and their understanding of the texts. However, this should not impact upon reading for enjoyment.</p> <p>Rehearsal of Times Tables</p> <p>Little and often is the best advice for learning times tables and we encourage the children to do this each day. They can log on and use Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) or practice another way such as verbally or writing facts down.</p>	<p>Edshed (Spelling) – We encourage the children to try and get on Edshed a number of times each week in order to practice spelling the words they are learning in school.</p>		
Y4				
Y5				
Y6				
<p>In Year 6, the amount of homework set throughout the year will increase to prepare children for secondary transition. This will include SATs activities that will have clear deadlines. Increased responsibility for completion of homework helps children to make a successful move to secondary school</p>				

We know that some parents would prefer to have more homework than is prescribed here. We are always willing to consider each case individually, but would firstly advise that number facts , spellings and reading are emphasised.