

# Cannon Lane Primary School



# Home Learning Policy

**Date reviewed by staff:**

**Date reviewed by the Governing Body:**

**Date for review:**

## **RATIONALE**

Home learning is an essential and valuable element of a child's education, but it must be purposeful and meaningful. We must communicate to our children that learning is a privilege, never a chore. It may be hard work at times, but when children realise the connection between home and school learning, it can be rewarding and exciting. Home learning is an extension of school learning so it may encompass all areas of the curriculum. This policy is underpinned to the United Nations Rights of the Child:

Article 3 - All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for the child.

Article 29 – Education should develop each child's talents and personality to the full.

Article 39- Children have the right to play and rest.

Homework needs to be a positive experience. It should be a time of sharing, talking and discussion. Short activities of different kinds - simple games, learning spellings and number facts and, of course, reading together provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment. The learning is recorded in a 'Home Learning' book where learning can be shared between home and school.

## **AIMS**

We aim to:

- ensure gradual progression in length and types of task from EYFS to Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2
- ensure the needs of individual pupils are taken into account
- ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding of expectations for themselves and their children
- extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision
- encourage self-motivation and independence
- prepare children for future learning
- provide purposeful links between class lessons and research at home
- enable children to apply their knowledge to a new challenge

The home learning set for different year groups varies across the curriculum but is progressive and consistent across the school. The home learning tasks are set on days consistent across the year group and this information will be shared at the beginning of a school year.

## **Reception-**

- Daily reading for approximately 15 minutes. Reading books are changed weekly in school but should be read daily at home in order to build children's confidence as readers.
- A learning matrix of activities (see Appendix A) will be provided every two weeks linked to the topic and themes of learning. The children will be asked to complete at least one of the activities
- An independent learning activity will be set each half term to either consolidate previous learning or prepare for future learning

- Year group newsletters will inform parents of phonics sounds and tricky words being taught in school that can be revised at home

### **Key Stage 1-**

- Weekly spellings will be given to learn at home, particularly with a focus on high frequency words in sentences. These will then be tested in class.
- Reading should be daily with a weekly comment by parents and staff in reading records
- A learning matrix of activities will be sent home every two weeks linked to current topics and themes of learning. The children will then have to complete at least one of the activities which will be recorded in their Home Learning books
- Year 2 will also have a maths learning piece of homework each week, for example learning times tables which will then be tested in class or a 'My Maths' activity
- A Learning log activity will be given out every half term as part of the learning matrix. This will be optional and give the opportunity for an extended project

### **Lower Key Stage 2-**

- Weekly spellings- particularly with a focus on Year 3 and 4 words in sentences
- Daily reading and a weekly comment in reading records by parents and carers
- A learning matrix of activities will be sent home every two weeks linked to current topics and themes of learning. The children will then have to complete at least two of the activities which will be recorded in their Home Learning books
- A maths learning piece of homework will be set each week, for example times tables which will then be tested in class or a 'My Maths' activity
- A Learning log activity will be given out every half term as part of the learning matrix. This will be optional and give the opportunity for an extended project.

### **Upper Key Stage 2-**

- Weekly spellings – focusing on roots words and specific spelling patterns, applying these to sentences and activities
- Weekly comment in reading records and completing two weekly reading activities
- A learning matrix of activities will be sent home every two weeks linked to current topics and themes of learning. The children will then have to complete two to three of the activities which will be recorded in their Home Learning books (Year 6 will be doing this for the Autumn Term, but will be given discrete subject homework in preparation for High School in the Spring and Summer terms)
- Weekly Investigative Maths- based upon the topic being studied or a 'My Maths' activity
- A Learning log activity will be given out every half term as part of the learning matrix. This will be optional and give the opportunity for an extended project.

## **Feedback**

Feedback on home learning is provided in many different ways, depending on the task set. It may be a display of successful work, individual marking, and comments from the class teacher, children presenting or sharing their learning to the class or a test on the information learned at home. See Marking and Feedback policy.

## **Parents and Carers role in supporting Home Learning**

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and Home Learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the Home Learning tasks that are set. We invite them to support their children when they feel it to be necessary and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

A rough guide to the amount of time spent on Home Learning:

- Reception- fun and informal
- Key Stage 1- 3 sessions of Home Learning at approximately 15 minutes a week
- Lower Key Stage 2- 3 sessions of Home Learning at approximately 30 minutes a week
- Upper Key Stage 2- 3 sessions of Home Learning at approximately 45 minutes a week

This is in addition to reading a range of texts. It is important to also complete informal learning activities and games to promote fun and skill development. For example: eye spy, guess who, and board games.

## Appendix 1: Examples of Learning Matrixes

### Year 1 Home Learning- Summer Memories

Date set:

Date due in:

**Choose at least one of the learning activities below to do in your Home Learning book.**

Create a postcard to send to somebody about one of your summer memories.	Create a shape picture using different 2D shapes showing a summer scene.	Write a poem about summer- try to include different rhyming words.
Create a collage from different materials about your summer.	Visit then draw and label a map of an outdoors space such as a garden or a park.	Write your own summer adventure story.

### Year 5 Home Learning

Date set:

Date due in:

**Choose at least one of the learning activities below to do in your Home Learning book.**

Write a letter or speech to apply for the School Council	Create a multiplication game using times tables that challenge you the most.	Make a list or draw a picture of different materials in your home.
Find, cut out and bring into school a newspaper article ready to share with the class	Write spelling sentences that include different connectives, different punctuation or word ladders.	Design a new uniform for a new Cannon Lane Primary School.