

Home-learning Policy

Waddesdon Village Primary School – *a Pathway to Excellence*



Approved by: Laura Forchione

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At Waddesdon Village Primary School our vision is centred on a commitment to excellence in learning and to high expectations. We aim to serve our community by providing an education of the highest quality through the experience it offers to all its pupils. We take pride in providing strong pastoral support in a safe learning environment where every child and adult is valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential. We aim to prepare every child for the challenges and changes of the future by giving them opportunities so they can achieve the highest standards in their personal development.

Introduction

This policy gives a broad description of the Home-learning that the school expects the children to do in each year group. Parents are informed, at the beginning of each half-term via the curriculum newsletter about the learning that is to take place and they are encouraged to enrich the curriculum with outside school experiences.

As a school we recognise that children learn best when school and family work in partnership to promote a child's learning and progress. This partnership includes encouraging children to practise, develop and enrich the learning that takes place in school and outside school.

The school understands that sometimes Home-learning is not completed due to family commitments or circumstances such as illness. Parents are asked to inform the school when this happens in the Home-learning book. The school is aware that many children are involved in a number of community experiences which support and encourage this aspect of a child's learning, therefore a reasonable length of time will be given to complete Home-learning as stated for each key stage below.

Aims of Home-learning

- To consolidate learning, deepen understanding and prepare children for work to come
- To provide an opportunity for children to reinforce knowledge, skills and understanding, reflect and build upon their learning in the classroom
- To further foster the partnership between home and school for the benefit of the child.
- To involve parents and carers (and other adults) in pupils' work
- To encourage the development of independent study, by offering a choice of more open-ended learning opportunities
- To encourage the development of pupils' organisational skills, self-discipline and confidence
- To provide opportunities for the pupils to take responsibility for their own learning and challenge themselves

Throughout a pupil's time at the school the amount and duration of Home-learning will slowly increase. The most important aspect of Home-learning is the quality and effort that children put into the task. Home-learning should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family.

Home-learning forms one part of the child's overall development and it is recognised that there are other important parts to this development, which may well include being a member of a club or team, attending other activities or even playing with peers/family.

The Home-learning document allows children to choose their learning from a carefully considered Home-learning curriculum set by the class teacher which will appropriately match children's individual needs.

If a child is absent for a length of time (e.g. with a broken leg), the teacher and the parent will agree what learning should be done at home, how it should be marked and what type of help and support needs to be given. Parents/Carers who have queries about Home-learning should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher. If for any reason home-learning cannot be completed please inform the class teacher via the home-learning book.

Home-learning

Home-learning books will be given out at the beginning of each half term. The choices of the Home-learning tasks are carefully chosen to support the curriculum and appropriately match children's individual needs. Home-learning may often be marked in a variety of ways such as praise (certificates, stickers, house points, achievements awarded in Achievement books and stamps), visual and verbal discussion.

If any of the homework expectations are not fully complete, the consequence will be to complete the missing work as set out in our Behaviour Policy.

The information, provided in Home Learning books, will include:

- An age appropriate expectation for shared or independent reading.
- An age appropriate expectation for times tables and number bonds practise.

- A range of maths and English based activities for children to choose from each week.

Offering a range of activities in advance will make it easier for children to select an activity that will 'fit' around other family activities in any given week.

Reading and times tables are important aspects of Home-learning. In KS2, in addition to reading and times tables, weekly tasks are set and are focussed on reading, writing and maths. The expectations are as follows:

Reception

- Reading – children will be sent home books to enjoy at home. 5 – 10 minutes daily practise.
- Letter sounds/words from Autumn Term 2 – 5 minutes daily

KS1 (Years 1 and 2)

Reading Records need to be bought in to school each day and are given back each day. On the inside cover of the Reading Record there is a chart to tick off each part of homework.

- Reading: Children should read for 15 minutes each day, including 1 day each week from a book on Bug Club. Details of reading sessions are to be recorded in the Reading Record.
- Maths: Children should log on to Times Tables Rock Stars (**Year 2 only from Spring Term**) and Numbots at home at least 3 times each week to practise times tables, number bond and arithmetic skills

KS2 (Years 3 to 6)

Home-learning Books are sent home on a Friday and due in the following Tuesday.

Reading Records are due in on a Tuesday and given back out on the same day. On the inside cover of the Reading Record there is a chart to tick off each part of homework.

Children in classes 3 to 6 are expected to do the following:

- Reading: Children should read for 20 minutes each day, including 1 day each week from a book on Bug Club. Details of reading sessions are to be recorded in the Reading Record.
- Maths: Children should log on to Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots at home at least 3 times each week to practise times tables, number bond and arithmetic skills.
- Tasks: Over the half term children will choose a range of maths and English tasks to complete.
- **Year 6 only** – From Autumn Term 2 onwards, homework will be set from the SAT Buster Books. Tasks will be set over the Easter break to complete in preparation for SAT exams.