



Home Learning Policy

What is home learning?

Home learning refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons either on their own or with parents/carers and other adults. It does not just mean formal exercises carried out by children without any adult help. Common home learning activities might include reading; pre-learning about a subject which will be explored further in class or completing tasks to consolidate learning. It may also include more extended activities to help develop inquiry skills or more direct and focused work in preparation for tests.

How effective is it?

Research by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has shown that overall, homework in primary schools does not appear to lead to large increases in learning. However, effective homework is associated with greater parental involvement. EEF research indicates that parental engagement is found to have a positive impact on progress. For this reason, Greentrees Primary School has developed a programme of home learning throughout all phases.

What is the purpose of home learning?

- It develops an effective partnership between the school and families.
- It consolidates and reinforces substantive and disciplinary knowledge.
- It enthuses children to extend their learning.
- It encourages children to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, preparing them for the expectations of secondary school.

How will it be implemented?

For pupils in EYFS and KS1, parents are informed about expectations for Home Learning in yearly welcome meetings. Letters and handouts are then sent home with further information as appropriate. For pupils in KS2, handouts are sent home and tasks are set on online platforms. All class pages on the website outline expectations for home learning.

To ensure effective implementation:

- Tasks should be carefully planned and structured to support progression in learning.
- Tasks should be short, focussed and relate directly to what is being taught in class.
- Pupils and families should be very clear about what they need to do.
- Pupils receive feedback (verbal or written) or may be expected to share their learning with the class.
- The policy will be regularly monitored (at least yearly).
- Incentives will be given to encourage pupils to engage with home learning activities.
- A Home Learning Club is in place to support pupils further, this might include support for pupils who need to access computers.

- Pupils will receive paper copies of home learning if they have difficulties in accessing technology and cannot attend Home Learning Club.

How much home learning will there be, and in which subjects?

The Government recommends the following amounts of **weekly** home learning:

- Key Stage 1 - 1 hour
- Lower Key Stage 2 - 1.5 hours
- Upper Key Stage 2 – 2.5 hours

The main focus will be on English, especially reading, and Mathematics. Increasingly, as children progress through the school, other curriculum subjects will be introduced. For infant pupils, home learning will largely consist of reading, sharing books and playing number games. For junior pupils, activities will be more substantial. In addition to activities relating to English and Mathematics, tasks may include researching information and other written tasks, for example.

Home learning should not prohibit involvement in other after school activities, such as sport, clubs, music etc.

Programme of Home Learning:

	EYFS	KS1	KS2
Reading (ongoing daily)	Reading (reading book and own literature). Listening to adults read stories. Reading of words from phonics and word cards.	Reading (reading book and own literature). Listening to adults read stories. Answering questions about books using reading comprehension bookmarks. Reading of words from phonics and word cards.	Reading (reading book and own literature). Answering questions about books using reading comprehension bookmarks. In the autumn term, Year 6 pupils complete weekly Reading Comprehension practice.
Spelling	(ongoing) Spelling of words from phonics and word cards.	(ongoing) Spelling of words from phonics and word cards.	(weekly) Spelling Shed activities linked to class-based learning. From the spring term, Year 6 pupils complete weekly GPS practice as an alternative to Spelling Shed.
Mathematics	(ongoing) Maths Folders, including practical activities linked to class-based learning.	(ongoing) Maths Passports.	(weekly) A Mathematics activity linked to class-based learning.

	Maths Passports.		From the spring term, Year 6 pupils complete weekly arithmetic practice as an alternative to Mathematics. Maths Passports.
Other	(occasionally) An enquiry-related home learning task linked to class-based learning.	(fortnightly) Y1 – A specific home learning task to support a curriculum subject. (weekly) Y2 - A specific home learning task to support a curriculum subject in a home learning book.	(optional) A menu of activities, provided termly, to supplement the home learning offer.
Enhanced opportunities	Mathematics. Links to other resources on class web pages.	Mathematics. Links to other resources on class web pages.	Links to other resources on class web pages.

Special Educational Needs

Children with Special Educational Needs should not be excluded from home learning. However, suitably modified activities should be given. Families should seek advice from the teacher if guidance is needed.

Responsibilities:

Families:

Families should provide a suitable place for their children to do their home learning. They should show that they value it and offer plenty of praise, encouragement and support. Families should take an interest in home learning and offer their help. However, they should not do the task for the pupils! Families should notify teachers of any problems regarding the completion of home learning. Families of pupils with Special Educational Needs may need to provide an increased level of support.

Teachers:

Teachers will carefully plan and monitor home learning, and give pupils feedback and/or opportunities to share their learning. They should offer clear instructions and guidance on the level of help expected. The workload for teachers should be manageable.

Pupils:

Pupils should try to complete their home learning carefully and should return work to school, if appropriate, on the required day. Older pupils should try to organise their own equipment and materials.

Due Dates and Times:

Because it can be difficult to complete home learning on a particular night, all work will be set in advance with several days given to complete it. We do not wish to make home learning too arduous,

neither do we wish to cause any anxiety for pupils or their families. We believe that pupils should also have time for rest and relaxation and to pursue leisure activities. At particularly busy times of the year, e.g. at the end of the summer and Christmas terms, home learning may not be set.