



Great Bedwyn C of E Primary School

Home Learning policy

Policy adopted: January 2018

Review date: January 2021

Review body: Headteacher and staff

Rationale:

The Department for education requires all schools to have a written homework policy that gives guidance to both teachers and parents about what is expected of them on a weekly basis. Homework is defined as 'any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents'. At Great Bedwyn School we value a strong home school partnership and believe that homework activities play an important part in developing our children as successful learners. For this reason, we prefer to refer to homework as home learning.

Aims:

- To reinforce skills, ideas and concepts introduced in school
- To provide parents with an opportunity to share in their child's learning by communicating what is being covered in school
- To encourage children to take increasing responsibility for their own learning
- To develop the skills and attitudes necessary to become successful learners that will support children within and beyond school and promote life long learning.

Our approach:

Across the school, we encourage our children to read regularly and to develop their reading skills so that, as they become accomplished decoders, they move on to appreciate and reflect on text at a deeper level. Fostering this deeper understanding is developed alongside accessing increasingly challenging texts.

Reading Records

Pupils in every year group are expected to read daily. We ask parents and carers to sign and comment in their child's reading record each time their child reads at home.

Parents often ask how they can support their child in developing their reading skills so we have produced a help sheet which is stuck in on the back page of your child's home learning book.

Home Learning Books

From Year 1 every child will be given a home learning book. On the inside front cover will be a summary of the home learning that will be set and the days on which it will come home and be expected to be handed back in.

Each week, spellings and written tasks will be recorded in the home learning book

Times Tables

The national curriculum expects all children to know and recall all their times table facts up to 12 x 12 **by the end of Year 4**. Times tables will therefore be a focus for home learning and times table challenge awards in school will also seek to ensure our children have a thorough knowledge of basic times tables.

Reception **(Government guidance states 1 hour per week to be spent on homework)**

Reading: Children will bring their reading books home to share with parents. They will also bring home word trees with key vocabulary to learn. Please write in your reading record when you read with your child. Library books are also sent home to share.

Year 1 **(Government guidance states 1 hour per week to be spent on homework)**

Reading: 10 minutes daily reading. Children will bring home their reading books to share with parents. Parents, please record when you hear your child read in their reading record.

Spelling: Children will be given weekly spellings to take home and learn. These will be linked to the Y1 list of common exception words and are best learnt through short daily activities. These words will be tested in school each week.

Handwriting: Handwriting practice focussing on correct letter formation.

Year 2 **(Government guidance states 1 hour per week to be spent on homework)**

Reading: 10 minutes daily reading. Children will bring home their reading books to share with parents. Parents, please record when you hear your child read in their reading record.

Spelling: Children will be given weekly spellings to take home and learn. These will be linked to the Y2 list of common exception words and are best learnt through short daily activities. These words will be tested in school each week and the test will be sent home so parents can see the progress being made.

Maths: A maths task will be set based on current learning or rehearsal of previously learnt skills. There will be a focus on learning the 2,5 and 10 times tables.

Handwriting: Additional handwriting practise may be set if needed.

Year 3 **(Government guidance states 1.5 hours per week)**

Reading: 10 mins daily reading. Children will bring home their reading books to share with parents. Parents, please record when you hear your child read in their reading record.

Writing: Children will bring home differentiated weekly spellings linked to spelling patterns and words from the year 3 list. These are best learnt through short daily activities. These words will be tested in school each week and the test will be sent home so parents can see the progress being made.

Maths: A weekly maths task will be set with a focus on times tables, number facts and current learning. Where appropriate maths tasks may be differentiated.

Handwriting: Additional handwriting practise may be set if needed.

Year 4 **(Government guidance states 1.5 hours per week)**

Reading: 10 mins daily reading. Children will bring home their reading books to share with parents. Parents, please record when you hear your child read in their reading record.

Writing: Children will bring home differentiated weekly spellings linked to spelling patterns and words from the year 3 and y4 lists as appropriate. These words will be tested each week and where words are still misspelt, they will be sent home the following week for further practise.

Maths: A weekly maths task will be set with a focus on times tables, number facts and current or previous learning. Where appropriate maths tasks may be differentiated.

Handwriting: Additional handwriting practise may be set if needed.

On occasions, when the teacher feels it is appropriate, a writing task linked to learning may be set in addition to the above core home learning activities.

Year 5 and Year 6 **(Government guidance states 30 minutes per day)**

Reading: 15 mins daily reading. Parents to record what has been read in reading records.

Writing: Children will bring home differentiated weekly spellings linked to spelling patterns and words from the year 5 and y6 lists as appropriate. These words will be tested each week.

Occasionally a grammar task linked to key skills and revising key skills will also be set.

Maths: A weekly maths task will be set with a focus on key skills, arithmetic and current or previous learning. Where appropriate maths tasks may be differentiated.

Handwriting: Additional handwriting practise may be set if needed.

Once each short term, an extended topic based learning activity will be set. The children will be given a topic or challenge and will be encouraged to take their learning in their own direction.

Resources:

To further support learning away from school we are able to suggest the following:

Home learning Club: KS2 Home learning club will run on a Friday from 3 to 4pm and will provide a quiet supervised time for children to complete written home learning tasks. Laptops will be available for the children to access should they be needed and squash and biscuits will also be available.

Study Ladder: Parents can register for free on this site which has a range of activities from across the curriculum which pupils can choose to do in order to supplement and embed their learning

There are a multitude of Apps you can use to motivate children to learn their times tables, hone their maths skills and practise their spellings. Many are free or require a small purchase fee. We would encourage children to get involved in such digital learning as this can often be a motivational way to practise skills and to increase fluency and recall of basic facts.