



# Great Bedwyn C of E Primary School

## Home Learning policy

Policy adopted: September 2020

Review date: September 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 and flash cards 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.

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**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.

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**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.

Other: An additional task based on current learning from across the curriculum may be set.

Handwriting: Additional handwriting practise may be set if needed.

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**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.

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

**Reading:** 15 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.

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

**Reading:** 15 mins daily reading. Parents/children 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 may also be set – year 5.

Alternate weeks of English/Maths/writing task may be set – year 6.

**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. (In year 6, may link to areas of need).

**Handwriting:** Additional handwriting practise may be set if needed.

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#### **Other information re home learning.**

##### **The Big B and Beyond**

##### **TT Rockstars**

##### **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.

### **Remote Learning**

Due to the current Covid pandemic, a class bubble (one year group) may shut, or there may be a national lockdown. In this case, the children will be provided with Blended Learning via Microsoft Teams, to be worked on during their self-isolation.

- Attendance on line is compulsory
- Work must be completed in school books provided
- Learning expectations and presentation must be adhered to: neat presentation with a sharp pencil, use a ruler, all children to focus throughout the school day

### **Interactions**

All children attending, in school or online, will be registered before 10am during the live lesson. If your child is unwell with either Covid or non-Covid related illness please contact the School Office as usual.

School staff will acknowledge your children daily during the live sessions. Further contact will take place as appropriate throughout the week.

Class Dojo may be used by the class teachers to share whole class messages and to celebrate learning when appropriate.

### **Feedback and assessment**

- All work should be completed in the school books provided unless stated otherwise
- All children will be expected to complete all tasks set during the school day
- Live plenaries after Maths and English lessons will address misconceptions
- Throughout the period of self-isolation pupils will be expected to upload learning onto Class Dojo or Teams when required.

We appreciate that this is a difficult time and families will be juggling work commitments, personal challenges and home schooling. Please call the school office for further advice or questions.