



Grove Vale Primary School

Home Learning Policy

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Introduction:

Education is a partnership between pupils, parents and school. Therefore, we at Grove Vale believe that homework plays a vital role in maintaining good home/school links and raising standards. Research demonstrates that homework which is specific and focused has the most impact as well as pupils learning the importance of having responsibility for their own learning. However, when parents are unsure of the expectations of the school and pupils do not receive clear feedback from both home and school, then it may actively discourage learning and damage the home/school relationships.

This policy aims to actively work in partnership with home/school links and make the greatest contribution to learning by:

- Reflecting our school mission statement: ***Together we grow.***
- Reflecting our school key drivers: ***Be Ambitious, Be Resilient, Be Creative, Be Curious, Be proud.***
- Ensuring a consistent approach throughout school and key stages.
- Encouraging good study habits, independence and self-organisation in our pupils.
- Setting clear guidelines for our staff, pupils and parents/carers.
- Supporting and reflecting school work by giving practice activities and retrievals.
- Extending school work through opportunities to research and take responsibility of own learning.
- Providing opportunities for parents to share further in their child's education
- Help pupils develop enquiring minds and develop good study practices.
- Preparing Year 6 pupils for the demands of secondary school home study and the importance of balance.

What is the purpose of Home Learning?

In order to extend the concept of traditional homework and to provide a more varied and fulfilling range of tasks, the term Home Learning may be used. Its purposes include:

- To learn new skills and knowledge.
- To practise skills and knowledge as a follow up to lessons in school.
- To prepare for future lessons.
- To develop independent study skills and good study habits.
- To improve skills and confidence in different areas of study.
- To provide opportunities for 1:1 attention.
- To involve parents to take an interest in and support their child's learning.
- To encourage children to explore areas of interest to them.



Homework Overview:

(see page 5 for year to year group overview of all homework)

It is essential that every child is given every opportunity, support and encouragement from home to complete the work set. Therefore, parents or others at home are asked to support their child's learning at home and get actively involved.

As a guide we have attached the following table to how much homework should be completed weekly.

	Time spent per night in minutes	Time spent per night in minutes may be one longer activity to be spread over a number of nights
Class	Reading	Other Activities from range listed
Reception	10	5
Yrs 1 & 2	20	15
Yrs 3 & 4	20	20
Yrs 5 & 6	20	25

Grove Vale recognises and values the importance of other out of school activities e.g. cubs, brownies, football training, dancing, swimming lessons, etc. It also greatly values the place for physical activity, relaxation and opportunities for the development of the child's own hobbies and interests. It is essential that leisure pursuits are part of a child's life and home study time must be included in the home routine to allow for these other activities. The two important points to remember are:

Little and often is better and Quality rather than quantity

Homework sent home may involve:

- Maths and English homework will be given on a weekly basis to support the work taking place in class and to embed core skills this will be using online platforms such as maths.co.uk or spag.com
- Timetable practice using TTRS.
- Purple mash or Seneca tasks.
- Reading with an adult or independently.
- Discussing reading books.
- Reading books from the library.
- Discussion from a prompt.
- Spelling challenges.
- Drawing/creative work.
- Mental maths tasks.
- Playing a number or word game.
- Games to play with an adult.
- Planning a story.
- Practising handwriting – letter and number formation.
- Writing in sentences.
- Learning and/or practising a poem or rhyme.
- Preparing to read aloud to the class or at an assembly.
- Finding interesting items to bring in.



- Research work and/or project work.
- Preparing a draft version or a final version of a piece of work.
- Music practice.
- Worksheets or exercises that follow up class work to practice and revise skills.
- Investigations.
- Collecting materials or information needed for class work.
- Completing a piece of work begun in class.
- Creative topic work that links to learning in school.
- Links to useful websites.

Inclusion:

School will help establish good home study habits by maintaining the same homework routine as much as possible e.g. setting spellings to learn and also by allocating more than one evening for longer pieces of work.

Grove Vale is an inclusive school guided by strong values that are expressed in our school aims. These aims promote inclusive education in its widest sense in all areas of school life. This also extends to homework. When homework is set, staff will be aware of pupils' needs and of issues, which might affect pupils' ability to undertake a piece of homework. They will then use their professional judgement and the advice of colleagues to address any issues raised in whatever manner is deemed appropriate to a particular situation to promote the issue of inclusion.





Year Specific Home Learning Activities at Grove Vale

Year Group	Home Learning Activities (activity and frequency)
R Spring and Summer term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to support your child's learning document a weekly document uploaded onto Tapestry as a guide to what your child has been learning that week. • Reading/Library books – Changed Weekly • Maths game –Fortnightly • Phonic/Tricky word activities –At child's pace when secure with previous set. • Tapestry projects – Half termly
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and English – Weekly Online- to include maths.co.uk or spag.com • Reading/ Library books– Changed Weekly • Spellings -Weekly • Phonic/Tricky word activities –At child's pace when secure with previous set.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and English – Weekly online - to include Timetable Rock Stars or Spag.com (alternate weeks) • Reading books- Weekly • Spellings- Weekly
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and English – Weekly Online - to include Timetable Rock Stars or Spag.com (alternate weeks) • Reading books- Weekly • Spellings – Weekly
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and English – Weekly Online - to include Timetable Rock Stars or Spag.com (alternate weeks) • Reading books – Daily opportunities to change when finished • Spellings – Weekly
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and English – weekly Online - to include Timetable Rock Stars or Spag.com (alternate weeks) • Reading books – Daily opportunities to change when finished • Spellings- Weekly
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and English – weekly - to include Timetable Rock Stars or Spag.com (alternate weeks) • Spellings –Weekly • Reading books- Daily opportunities to change when finished



How will teachers, pupils and parents get feedback?

Homework will not always be marked in writing – verbal feedback may be more appropriate at times and the home learning task may sometimes be marked together as a class or feed into another task that is formally marked. Tasks completed online maths.co.uk or spag.com for example instant feedback will be received once completed by the pupil and all scores are sent straight to the child's class teacher.

The use of our reading/homework diaries give opportunities for effective partnership with parents. It provides a reading record for home and school and an opportunity to give feedback on other work and activities in and out of school.

Home Study Pupil Absence:

School does not send homework to those pupils who are absent through illness because it is assumed that the child is too unwell to do it. However, there are occasions when a child may be sufficiently recovered but still unable to attend school and we are happy to provide work given at least a 24-hour notice period.

We do not send homework to cover for holidays taken in school time. Governors do not support holidays that are taken during term time.

Making the expectations clear:

The teachers will:

- Plan for home-school study tasks at the short-term planning stage.
- Keep to a routine of standard tasks where possible.
- Give more than one evening for longer tasks.
- Provide verbal or written feedback to pupils and help them to set and achieve targets for future work.
- Encourage positive home/school communication.
- Use the silver point system to reward success and effort.

The pupils will:

- Know that home study is an important part of their learning and do their best, seeking help where required and talking to parents/carers about what they are learning in school.
- Be expected to have the work in on time.
- Spend the allocated time on the non-written tasks e.g. spelling, reading and music.
- Be expected to set and work to targets appropriate to their age.
- Have the reading record in school daily and take it home every afternoon.
- Apply themselves to the task set.

The parents/carers will:

- Ensure that the child is given time and encouragement to work on the task(s) set



- Use the reading record/learning logs comment box to feed back to the child and teacher
- Read daily with their child, particularly those under 9 year olds (or those whose reading is below 9 years) for the recommended time each day
- Provide a regular routine and suitable environment for study
- Praise success and effort

The Senior Leadership Team will:

- Monitor the planning of homework
- Monitor the use of the reading record/diary
- Review the policy with the Senior Management Team and Governors
- Reward success and effort through the merit system
- Support teachers, pupils and parents to ensure that the policy is effective

Approved on

Governor's signature _____ Date _____

