

Our key aim is to bless every child spiritually, emotionally and academically during the time that they are with us, following Jesus' example so they leave our school knowing that they are loved, cared for and able to achieve success beyond their wildest dreams in their careers, relationships and citizenship.

Aims

A good, well-managed home learning program helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Home learning also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their child's education.

- To provide an enjoyable and purposeful supplement to class learning.
- To provide opportunity for the child to practise what has been learnt in class, including the development of the basic skills e.g. tables, spellings, independent research skills.
- To provide a practical opportunity for parents to become involved in the academic development of their child.
- To provide a practical opportunity for the child to begin to take responsibility for organising their own workload.

What is home learning?

Home learning is not necessarily a written task. It is any task that a child is asked to complete at home. It may consist of reading or learning facts by heart. It may also be reinforcement of class learning, further practise of skills learnt in class or research/project work.

Good primary school practice requires that we give credence to other developmental needs of the child. At Henley we appreciate the value of extracurricular activities, (sport, music, dancing, drama, the uniformed groups and other hobbies). These out-of-school achievements are celebrated in weekly Celebration Assemblies where children can bring in certificates, medals and information about their interests.

As a school we work together with parents and guardians as a partnership, expanding the curriculum, extending it to the home and building on experiences shared outside school. We also support children who struggle with home learning, whether it is with resources, time or understanding. (See our Pupil Premium Strategy on the school website).

Research evidence suggests that home learning has the greatest impact on learning when:

- Home learning tasks are an integral part of the school curriculum.
- There is consistent practice across the school in setting home learning tasks.
- Pupils and parent/carers are clear about what they need to do and know what to expect each week.
- Parent/carers are treated as partners in their children's learning.
- There are high expectations of pupils in completing learning done at home.
- Pupils receive prompt feedback on their completed tasks.
- Home learning policies are regularly monitored and evaluated to check their effectiveness.

Staff are expected to work towards this aim by:

- Providing a range of home learning tasks and activities to consolidate learning in class
- Ensuring the child has a clear understanding of the tasks involved
- Ensuring the schedule of home learning is available to the children and parents at the beginning of each year and that schedule is predominantly adhered to throughout the year, with some flexibility of change with the teacher's discretion
- Ensuring home learning is set and checked and that parents are informed when no home learning is set.

Pupils are expected to work towards this aim by:

- Taking responsibility for handing in the completed task on the agreed day
- Taking pride in presentation and content
- Being organised so that necessary books, log in details and equipment are not left at school or home

Parents are expected to work towards the schools aims by:

- Providing suitable quiet surroundings i.e. not in front of the television
- Encouraging their child to persevere with a task even if it seems daunting at first, and giving support if necessary.
- Giving due importance to non-written tasks such as hearing reading and assisting in the learning of times tables and weekly spellings
- Keeping the staff informed of any changes in the child's circumstances which may affect their learning
- Not completing the child's home learning for them. However, annotations of where children have struggled will be greatly appreciated to inform next steps

Monitoring and Evaluating Home Learning

- Home learning will be monitored by class teachers
- There will be discussion and a learning dialogue between teachers and children as part of the feedback process.
- The effectiveness of the home learning policy will be followed up through questionnaires to parents, pupils and teachers.

Guidelines for home learning:

Reception

- 5-10 minutes of reading a phonically decodable each night, with also the option of a 'read to' story or non-fiction to share with parents/carers
- Learn key word recognition (Brainboxes). Children will also receive spellings when appropriate during the year.
- Topic based curriculum learning: The children will be given a selection of different type of activities and tasks to complete at home. Minimum of 1 task must be completed each half term. However, if your children wish to do all of the tasks, they can celebrate their achievements/findings/experiences in class.

Years 1- 2

- Daily reading of their reading books to an adult.
- In year 2, when appropriate, once the book is complete the children log onto AR and complete a comprehension quiz on the book read.
- Daily, Numbots to support with retention of key number facts - online (advised 10 mins)
- Topic based curriculum learning: The children will be given a selection of different type of activities and tasks to complete at home. Minimum of 1 task must be completed each half term. However, if your children wish to do all of the tasks, they can celebrate their achievements/findings/experiences in class.

Years 3-6

- Daily, reading of their reading books to an adult or themselves (higher up the school). Once the book is complete the children log onto AR and complete a comprehension quiz on the book read.
- Daily TT Rockstars or Prodigy to support with Maths including times tables - online (advised 10-15 mins)
- Topic based curriculum learning: The children will be given a selection of different type of activities and tasks to complete at home. Minimum of 1 task must be completed each half term. However, if your children wish to do all of the tasks, they can celebrate their achievements/findings/experiences in class.
- Year 6 will be given additional SATs revision practise at the teacher's discretion