

Home Learning Policy

This policy explains:

- What we expect for home learning at our school
- Why home learning is important
- How parents and carers can best support their child

We value the support you give at home and believe that working together helps children to achieve their best.

Why Is Practice Important?

Research shows that children learn best when they practise key skills regularly. Repetition helps learning to “stick” and builds confidence over time. Activities such as:

- daily reading
- practising spelling patterns
- learning number facts and times tables

can all be completed at home and make a real difference to your child's progress.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) also advises that *homework linked to classroom learning is most effective*.

Our Aims for Home Learning

We want home learning to be:

- **Purposeful** - it supports what is being taught in school
- **Consistent** - expectations are clear across the school
- **Supportive** - helping children feel confident

Our aims are to:

- Provide age-appropriate home learning
- Help children become independent learners

- Strengthen links between home and school
- Reinforce learning from the classroom
- Prepare children for secondary school and beyond

Our Beliefs About Learning

We believe that:

- Learning continues beyond the classroom
- Regular practice builds strong understanding
- Daily reading is essential for every child
- Maths skills improve with frequent practice
- Spelling is best secured through regular revisiting
- Children grow in confidence through consistency
- Responsibility for learning develops over time with support

Reading at Home

Reading is central to every child's learning. We encourage all children to read regularly at home for both enjoyment and progress.

Reception (FS2) and Year 1

- Children will bring home a book matched to their Little Wandle phonics stage which are carefully chosen to build confidence and fluency
- Children will bring home a book for enjoyment.

Years 2 and 3

- Children will home a book matched to the Little Wandle Fluency scheme.
- These children will also bring home a book for enjoyment.
- Children who are fluent readers, may choose their own appropriate-level reading book.

Years 4 to 6.

- Children who are fluent readers, may choose their own appropriate-level reading book. Regular reading at home continues to have a very strong impact on progress

Reading for Pleasure

Helping your child enjoy reading is one of the most powerful things you can do to support their learning. Reading for pleasure:

- builds imagination
- develops vocabulary
- improves understanding
- supports wellbeing

Sharing stories together, visiting the library and talking about books all help to build a lifelong love of reading.

Reading Miles

Every child from Reception (FS2) to Year 6 has a **reading miles book** to track and celebrate their reading.

Each time your child reads at home, please record:

- the date
- the book
- how much was read
- a brief comment

Strong readers may read independently. Children who are still building confidence should read aloud to an adult. All children benefit from discussion about what they have read.

Reading miles books should be brought to school **weekly** and will be checked by staff.

Recommendation:

- **1 minute of reading = 1 reading mile**
- Weekly target = **40 reading miles**
- This means we recommend **10 minutes of reading across 4 days**
- Children are encouraged to read more if they wish and will be rewarded for their reading achievements

Our Weekly Home Learning Expectations

All children are expected to complete age-appropriate home learning each week. Expectations increase as children move through school.

Foundation Stage 2 (Reception)

- **Read** with an adult 4 times per week for 10 minutes (recorded)
- Practise **phonics** using the sheet given out from school.

Year 1

- **Read** to an adult **4 times per week for 10 minutes** (recorded)
- Practise **phonics** using the sheet given out from school.
- Play a **maths game** such as White Rose 1-Minute Maths
<https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths>

Year 2

- **Read** to an adult 4 times per week for 10 minutes (recorded)
- Practise **spellings**
- Practise **times tables** using TT Rockstars for at least 10 minutes

Years 3, 4 and 5

- **Read** to an adult 4 times per week for 10 minutes (recorded)
- Practise **spellings**
- Practise **times tables** using TT Rockstars for at least 20 minutes (e.g. 5 minutes over 4 days)
- Complete a **Maths or English activity** set by the teacher

Year 6

- **Read** to an adult or independently 4 times per week for 10 minutes (recorded)
- Practise **spellings**
- Practise **times tables** using TT Rockstars for at least 20 minutes
- Complete activities in their **homework books** as set by the teacher

Children with SEND may receive adapted or bespoke home learning to meet their individual needs.

Homework Time Guidance

Home learning is designed to reinforce learning, not cause stress.

If a Maths or English task is taking **longer than 30 minutes**, please ask your child to stop and let their teacher know. If this happens regularly, we will work with you to provide support.

Monitoring Home Learning

- Home learning will be checked and responded to weekly by school staff
- Parents play a vital role in supporting home learning
- If a child is regularly not completing home learning, parents may be invited into school so we can work together to support them

When Home Learning Is Not Completed

We understand that sometimes there are unforeseen circumstances. If your child is unable to complete their home learning, please speak to the class teacher so support can be offered.