



Wyton on the Hill Primary School Home Learning Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 We believe that learning at home is a key aspect of children's development. It helps children improve important skills and provides a valuable opportunity for children to share with their parents/ carers learning they have been doing at school.
- 1.2 Through this policy we aim to:
- ensure a consistent approach across the school
 - ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
 - ensure parents / carers can support their child more effectively
 - extend and support learning
 - provide opportunities for parents/carers and children to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.
- 1.3 The school policy for home learning was compiled by the Senior Leadership Team in consultation with the whole teaching staff and groups of parents in March 2015. It was revised in September 2016.

2. Aims and objectives

- 2.1 The aims and objectives of home learning are to:
- consolidate and extend learning
 - practise / rehearse skills
 - revise skills / knowledge
 - prepare the foundations for future topics
 - promote links between home and school.
 - develop an age-appropriate, self-regulating work ethic.
- 2.2 Home learning tasks may also be set for individuals to support a specific and identified need in reading, maths, spelling or grammar.
- 2.3 Home learning will also focus on the whole school priorities for raising achievement for the academic year. Our whole school priorities for 2016-17 are:
1. *to foster a culture of reading across the school*
 2. *to improve standards in writing across the school*
 3. *to continue to consolidate basic maths skills and their application to real life situations.*

3. Home Learning Structure and Guidance

- 3.1 Home learning activities may vary from time to time, depending on our class topics and the needs of individual pupils / classes/ groups. However, in general, home learning set by class teachers will follow the following structure:

Year Group	Minimum Frequency (of course, some families may feel that children could benefit from further practice sessions)	Home Learning Activities
Reception	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 5-10 mins with an adult (recorded in the child's Reading Diary) NB This does not have to be a whole book) • Phonics Home Learning Pack: 5-10 mins with an adult • 'Mathletics Live': 5 - 10mins
Year 1	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 10-15 mins with an adult (recorded in the child's Reading Diary) NB This does not have to be a whole book) • Phonics Home Learning Pack: 5-10 mins with an adult • 'Mathletics Live': 5 - 10mins
	Once a week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths Home Learning Task set by the class teacher (in the Maths Home Learning Book)
Year 2	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 15-20 mins with an adult • Spellings: 10 mins (with an adult, if possible) • 'Mathletics Live': 5-10 mins •
	Once a week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 task in the Home Reading Journal • Maths Home Learning Task set by the class teacher (in the Maths Home Learning Book) 15-20mins
Year 3	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 20-25 mins independently / with an adult where possible • Spellings: 10-15 mins independently • 'Mathletics Live': 10 -15 mins
	Once a week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 task in the Home Reading Journal • Maths Home Learning Task set by the class teacher (in the Maths Home Learning Book) 25-30 mins
Year 4	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 20-25 mins independently / with an adult where possible • Spellings: 10-15 mins independently • 'Mathletics Live': 10 -15 mins
	Once a week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 1 task in the Home Reading Journal • Maths Home Learning Task set by the class teacher (in the Maths Home Learning Book) 25-30 mins
Year 5	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 25-30 mins independently • Spellings: 15-20 mins independently • 'Mathletics Live': 10 -15 mins
	Once a week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 2 tasks in the Home Reading Journal • Maths Home Learning Task set by the class teacher (in the Maths Home Learning Book) 30-45 mins
Year 6	At least 3 times per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 30+ mins independently • Spellings: 15-20 mins independently • 'Mathletics Live': 10 -15 mins
	Once a week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 2 tasks in the Home Reading Journal • Maths Home Learning Task set by the class teacher (in the Maths Home Learning Book) 30-45 mins
All Year Groups	Half termly	In addition, for those parents and pupils who feel we do not set enough home learning, we have introduced a 'Can You...? Half Termly Home Learning Challenge!' For details of most recent and previous challenges, see our Home Learning page.

3.2 The pattern of reading, spelling and 'Mathletics Live' home learning above may also be used to help children practise skills over the holidays so that they retain their learning.

3.3 In addition to the above, many parents will want to promote learning at home in ways

other than home learning set by the school and the school encourages this. The class pages on the school website give a curriculum overview for parents, with useful web-links, so that they can plan learning activities at home related to topics being studied at school. Parents may also wish to promote learning at home in any of the following ways:

- playing Board games – for example, playing Scrabble, or card and dice games is a great way of learning to spell or practise mental maths, but also teaches turn taking, solving problems and even losing gracefully!
- using money – counting, going shopping, and calculating the change, currency conversion all support mathematical reasoning and understanding
- cooking – involves measuring and weighing, and calculating (e.g. calculating cooking times, total weight etc)
- telling the time - KS1 o'clock, half past, quarter to and past; KS2 5 minute and 1 minute accuracy and the 24 hour clock.
- using timetables for travel
- calculating time intervals between TV programmes, bus journeys and car journeys.

4. Monitoring and acknowledgement of home learning in school

- 4.1 Home learning is monitored and acknowledged in school in a variety of ways, either verbally or in written form:
- through our 'Mathletics Live' monitoring and certificate system
 - through teachers' assessments of work undertaken by pupils in their Home Reading and Maths Journals
 - through regular spelling tests, spelling dictations and quizzes based on spellings set for homework
 - through guided and individual reading assessments
 - through comments in KS1 reading diaries
 - or, in the case of some written homework, through marking undertaken by pupils and teachers as part of lessons.
- 4.2 Teachers will keep records of home learning completed and these records will be monitored on a regular basis. Children's level of commitment and effort to home learning will be reflected in children's termly reports and discussed at mentoring meetings.
- 4.3 Where issues arise from home learning set, the teacher will plan to follow up the learning in lesson time, either with individuals, or as a whole class / group.
- 4.4 The expectation is that children will engage actively with home learning tasks. Where children are regularly missing their home learning, the class teacher will contact parents to ask for their support. If parents are not able to support the home learning schedule, teachers may support the child by making alternative provision for the completion of homework during playtime or lunchtime.

5. Inclusion and Home Learning

- 5.1 For children who have an Personal Intervention Plan (PIP), it may be that specific home learning is set to meet aspects of the PIP instead of their regular class home learning.

6. The Role of Parents

- 6.1 Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and home learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the home learning tasks that are set.
We invite them to help their children by providing them with the sort of environment and encouragement that allows children to do their best. For example, parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by talking to them about their home learning, and by sharing tasks completed by their child.
Please refer to the guidance provided in the tasks sent home (in the case of Reading, Spelling and Phonics home learning) or (in the case of Mathematics home learning), to the Calculations Policy on the school website.
- 6.2 If parents have any questions about home learning, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions or concerns are of a more general nature, they should contact the Head teacher or, if they wish to make a more formal complaint about the school home learning policy, or the way it is implemented, parents should contact the Chair of Governors to make a complaint.

7. Use of ICT in Home Learning

- 7.1 The school promotes e-Safety across the curriculum and this extends to the use of ICT at home. A copy of the school's E-Safety policy is available on the school website or from the school office. The child's safety is paramount in all matters regarding use of the internet and we advise parents and carers to always supervise their child's access to the internet.
- 7.2 If your child does not have access to a computer or tablet device at home, please contact their class teacher so that provision can be made in school for the ICT elements of the home learning, such as 'Mathletics Live'.
- 7.3 There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning. Our school website provides links to the sites which will best support additional learning at home.

8. Monitoring and review

- 8.1 The Senior Leadership Team is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of this policy. We allocate special time for this vital task. Members of the Senior Leadership Team use this time to inspect teachers' home learning records and samples of the children's work, listen to pupils' views, and talk to teachers and parents.
- 8.2 It is the responsibility of our Governing Body to agree and then monitor the school Home Learning Policy. Parents complete a questionnaire each year and during the school's Ofsted inspection. Our Governing Body pays careful consideration to any concern that is raised by any parent. Our Governing Body may, at any time, request from our Head teacher a report on the way home learning is organised in our school.