



Grove School

Policy for Home Learning

Mission statement:

“Enjoy, learn, achieve”

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Policy for Home Learning

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A. What is the value of home-learning?

Research shows that homework can make an important contribution to a child's progress.

When used properly homework can extend the challenge open to all children and maximise the impact of teaching.

Homework also serves to forge a positive partnership between school and home and inform parents and carers about areas of the curriculum being studied in school.

B. The aims of a home learning policy

The aims of homework are as follows:

- to enhance the partnership between school and home,
- to consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy,
- to value all kinds of learning within a child's home experience,
- to extend the quality of school learning and experiences,
- to encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own,
- to prepare pupils for transition to Key Stage 3,

C. How can parents help children at home?

Some time set aside at home for parents/carers and children to share experiences, talk, research and practise key skills in a supportive environment is invaluable.

The content of homework will vary as children progress through Grove School, as will the suggested time to be allocated to homework.

Parents should try to ensure that time and space is set aside for this important learning experience.

Valuing pupil's efforts and praising their achievements will encourage children to participate in home learning.

Teachers and teaching assistants will reward and recognise when pupils participate in home-school learning.

All children can be nominated as Star of the Week or can be awarded a Well Done postcard for participation in and high-quality home learning. Homework is commented on in each child's end of year report.

D. What is the policy for homework at Grove?

Any parents who have queries or concerns regarding homework should feel free to consult their child's class teacher to discuss issues at a mutually convenient time.

Nursery

Children will be encouraged to bring home artefacts and work completed in class to talk about and explore at home.

Staff in Early Years Foundation Stage will verbally share aspects of children's achievements and what they enjoyed during the day with parents at the end of the session. Parents will then be able to share these experiences at home.

As your child's teacher assesses them to be ready to engage with our home reading programme children will be able to bring home wordless

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books each week to share with you at home. The focus of these books is talking about what the children can see and telling stories orally. Children will be provided with a book bag.

Reception

Children bring home a reading book every Monday to Thursday. The book the children bring home will be the book they are reading in their reading practise sessions. It is important the children bring this reading book back to school each day. Children are provided with a book bag to put their home reading book in.

Children will bring home key words from their reading books. Children can work at home, with an adult, on learning to read the words and constructing sentences using these words.

Some children will come home with a sticker on their jumper which will say a word or phonic sound. These are words or sounds that the child has found difficult to read or say in their reading or phonics sessions and therefore need to practise. Make sure you ask your child what their stickers say.

In EYFS all children will bring home a weekly homework activity to consolidate learning or prepare for learning for the following week.

Suggested time spent: 10 - 15 minutes per evening.

Years One and Two

Children in Key Stage One bring home a reading book every Monday to Thursday. The book the children bring home will be the book they are reading in their reading practise sessions. It is important the children bring this reading book back to school each day. Children are provided with a book bag to put their home reading book in.

Some children in Key Stage One will come home with a sticker on their jumper which will say a word or phonic sound. These are words or sounds that the child has found difficult to read or say in their reading or phonics sessions and therefore need to practise. Make sure you ask your child what their stickers say.

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Children in Key Stage One will bring home spellings every week. They will be expected to learn how to spell these words and will be tested on them in the following week.

Children will be encouraged to take part in a homework activity in a home learning book, this may be maths and literacy or project based. Sometimes homework may be set on Collins Connect.

Children in Key Stage One are encouraged to learn the multiplication tables at home. Parents are encouraged to ask their child's teacher if they are unsure which multiplication tables or number bonds their child is working on.

Homework is set on a Friday and completed for a Monday.

Suggested time spent: 10-15 minutes per evening.

Years Three and Four

Children in year 3 and 4 change their reading books on a weekly basis from the home reading programme.

Children have one literacy and numeracy homework each week. This is given to children on a Friday and is due to be completed by a Monday.

Children have a weekly spelling list and will be tested on their spellings on a Monday.

Homework is given to children in a homework book (one for literacy and one for mathematics) and will be marked by your child's teacher. Please keep the homework book in the book bag provided by school.

Children in Key Stage Two are encouraged to learn the multiplication tables at home. Parents are encouraged to ask their child's teacher if they are unsure which multiplication tables their child is working on.

Teachers keep a record of homework completed and will share this with parents at parent's consultation sessions.

Suggested time spent: 20 minutes per evening

Years Five and Six

Children in year 5 and 6 change their reading books on a weekly basis from the home reading programme.

Children have one literacy and numeracy homework each week. This is given to children on a Friday and is due to be completed by a Monday.

Children have a weekly spelling list to learn at home and will be tested on their spellings the following week.

Homework is given to children in a homework book (one for literacy and one for mathematics) and will be marked by your child's teacher. Please keep the homework book in the book bag provided by school.

Children in Key Stage Two are encouraged to learn the multiplication tables at home. Parents are encouraged to ask their child's teacher if they are unsure which multiplication tables their child is working on.

Teachers keep a record of homework completed and will share this with parents at parent's consultation sessions.

Suggested time spent: 20 minutes per evening

Support for pupils

Children who frequently do not complete homework at home are supported by staff in homework clubs at playtimes.

Home reading

Every child in EYFS, Key Stage One and those working on the phonics programme in Key Stage Two bring home a reading book every Monday to Thursday. The book the children bring home will be the book they are reading in their reading practise sessions. It is important the children bring this reading book back to school each day.

Every child in Key Stage Two is expected to change their home reading book at least once a week. There are clear systems in place, monitored by staff, to support this taking place. Please encourage your child to bring their reading book to school in the book bag provided and read at home

with them. Teachers ask children about the books they have read at home; this is often a guided reading activity.

Replacement of reading scheme books

If during the year your child loses or damages their homework bag, their homework book or a reading book from the home reading scheme, parents will be expected to meet the cost of this loss or damage.

Expectations of pupil work at home

Teachers have high expectations of homework in books and home reading. We do not expect homework books to be defaced or have graffiti on them. We expect children to complete homework in pencil and to not use felt tip pens.

If a child has a handwriting licence, they are able to use a black pen for homework.

E. Workshops

Workshops are held once a term for parents and children in Nursery to Year 6. These workshops are an ideal way for children and parents to work together to make a game or activity to support home learning in phonics, reading, writing and mathematics.

Details of workshops are published on the school's website sent home in fliers and are advertised around school.

Please do take the time to join your child in a workshop.

F. Holiday Projects

To encourage home learning holiday projects will be set for all children. These are linked to events in the school year and curricular programmes. Parents receive information about these projects in the last week of term and they are also available on the school website; www.grove.sch.bham.uk

G. Responsibility of the Governing Body

- To review the home learning policy on an annual basis;
- To support parental engagement in home learning/holiday projects by attending, where possible, award and celebration assemblies.

Safe use of the internet.

If your child should wish to use the internet for home learning, please ensure they do so in a safe way. If you require any further information about the safe use of the internet, please arrange to speak to your child's Year Group Leader.