



# Learning at Home

The approach to homework is in three layers: Core Learning, Optional tasks and Extended Opportunities.

## Core Learning

This is the work that will be sent home each week and that we would like all children to do:

- **Reading**  
The most important, valuable thing you can spend time doing with your child is enjoying books. Each child will have a Reading Record book: see below for more detailed guidance about these.
- **Spelling**  
Children in Years 1-6 have Spelling Log books with lists of words that they need to learn related to spelling rules being taught in class or common exception word lists for specific years.
- **Mental Maths Practice**  
This will be practice of essential maths skills, including number bonds and multiplication facts. Your child's teacher will tell you which facts your child needs to practise at home.

The Reading Record and Spelling books need to be brought into school daily in the child's book bag. No child will be punished for not doing this work at home. Instead we encourage all parents to work in partnership with us to help your child make the best progress they can in these key skills, as set out in the Home School Agreement.

## Optional Tasks

This will be sent out at the beginning of each term or topic, and will be a menu of tasks that children may CHOOSE to do. They are all OPTIONAL. The menu will include written activities, maths and making tasks. There will be dates when children may bring these pieces of homework to school in a very similar manner to the way it runs at the moment. The homework will be responded to on a response sheet, shown below, by the teacher, by friends of your child and by you – just a short note about how well you think your child has done. We think this will be highly effective in showing the child how valued the work is here and at home.

## My Homework

<b>Title of my Homework:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>My friend's comment:</b>	
<b>My friend's comment:</b>	
<b>My teacher's comment:</b>	
<b>I have shown my homework to people at home – this is what they think:</b>	

No child will be at a disadvantage if they don't choose to do any of these tasks. They may do one and no others, or they may choose to do something of their own that is not on the menu of tasks. We celebrate their homework through the response sheet and displaying work in the classroom and around the school.

## Home Reading Records

A vital part of the core homework activities is reading and the school advises that every child should be practising reading most evenings. Of course for our youngest children who have not yet learnt to read the words for themselves, sharing and enjoying books with their parents and families is the most appropriate way to develop a love of reading. For those who are going through the stages of learning to read the words and those who are fluent and highly skilled readers, a little practise every day, supported or overseen by parents is more appropriate. We are aware that there are significant numbers of children who are not regularly reading at home and we would like to reiterate that it is vitally important that children do this. The school provides suitable reading material, appropriate to the child's stage of development and interests, for reading at home and class teachers are able to give recommendations of suitable texts for their specific year groups.

Teachers keep records of children's progress during independent reading sessions and Book Talk lessons but the Reading Record enables you to make a contribution on your child's reading and progress that is being made, as well as ask any questions or raise concerns. Your child will bring home their Reading Record daily and it will be checked weekly by class teachers. We ask you please to add comments about your child's reading, such as how well they tackled the text, whether or not they enjoyed it and why, details of discussions you have had about the text or any particular words or parts of the text that were tricky.

We do appreciate that not every parent can contribute in detail every day and also that sometimes children are tired or have other after school activities and it is not appropriate for reading to happen that night. However, reading is a vital life skill and, equally importantly, can be hugely enjoyable, so your support and involvement with this is appreciated.

SIGNED: .....Dave Hairs.....  
Chair of Standards Committee

DATED: .....May 2019.....

REVIEW PERIOD: Annual