

The Windmill Primary Federation

Executive Headteacher: Ms J. Davis
Deputies: Mr S. Horsley & Mrs R. Ward



HOME LEARNING POLICY

'Homework' has always been an important part of children's learning. However we know that children learn in different ways and therefore intend to provide a variety of home learning tasks to appeal to all learners. We believe our Home Learning policy will excite and enthuse children and parents to produce work at home which they will enjoy doing, and will also help their development and progress at school.

AIMS

- For parents and children to enjoy learning together
- To consolidate children's skills and understanding
- To give opportunities for children to apply their skills in problem solving
- To spend time on a longer project eg an extended story or sustained topic work
- Build on personal strengths eg creativity, imagination
- To encourage children taking responsibility for their own learning eg in preparation for High School
- To develop a pride in their own work and achievements

READING is the backbone to most aspects of learning

Reading is essential right through primary school from Nursery to Y6.

- Any reading at home really makes a difference.
- An adult listening makes twice as much difference.
- An adult asking questions and getting children to think about and discuss their reading makes three times as much difference!

ROTE LEARNING (ie learning off by heart, repeating from memory) is essential so that children have a rapid recall of number facts and can then concentrate on how to apply the number facts to problem solving

- **Phonics** to help sounding out new words
- **Spellings** including learning strategies, rules and patterns
- **Maths** number facts eg number bonds, rapid recall of times tables

Feedback and marking for Pupils

- All work will be recognised and appreciated by adults, and sometimes, peers
- Work will be marked where relevant
- Some feedback may be verbal only.

Rote Learning: Spellings and Maths

Please note that these tasks will not always be given out on a weekly basis – there may be a list at the beginning of term or staff may give work on an individual basis according to need. The weekly guidelines below are to give parents an idea of how long to spend on rote learning whether or not the class has been given a specific task that week.

EXPECTATIONS for different age groups

| Year Group | Home Learning Task | Frequency |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Reception | 10 minutes reading Other small tasks as required to support learning | Daily |
| Year 1 | 10 minutes reading 10 minutes spellings practice | Daily 2 x weekly |
| Year 2 | 10 minutes reading 10 minutes spellings practice Times tables practice 20 minutes literacy or mathematics | Daily 2 x weekly as needed weekly |
| Year 3 and 4 | 15 minutes reading 10 minutes spellings practice 10 minutes rote learning maths eg number bonds, times tables 20 – 30 minutes literacy or mathematics task | 3 x weekly weekly weekly weekly |
| Year 5 and 6 | 15 minutes reading 10 minutes spellings 10 minutes rote learning maths eg times tables 30 minutes literacy task 30 minutes mathematics task | 3 x weekly Weekly Weekly Weekly weekly |

PROJECT TASK

In addition there will be a project to complete, three times a year. This could be given out at the beginning of each term and expected to be completed and brought in to school the week after the half term holiday, or given out just before half term and expected to be in by the end of term. However Families can then choose whether to use a week day, weekend or holiday to do this, whatever suits you best.

The project will be based around a topic area being studied in the class. You will be given a basic idea which can be interpreted in any way you choose. Each child should be able to find an idea which matches his or her learning style from this variety of tasks.

Here is a list of ideas, but it is not exhaustive and any interpretation will be accepted.

- Painting
- Design and make a model
- Write a story
- Create an information sheet
- Design and illustrate a poster
- Research, interpret and write a report

Equal Opportunities

All children will be given equal value with regard to race, gender and cultural background. No child will be disadvantaged in their homework activities by resources required at home.

If you need any basic resources to complete a challenge ask your teacher and a loan could be arranged. If you need computer or internet access, this can also be arranged during breaks. See your class teacher to make any arrangements.

The Home Learning Policy is to give you an idea of what could be expected. Sometimes you'll do more, sometimes less. We understand that you will have many other commitments as a family too!

Agreed by staff: September 2015

Adopted by Governors: September 2015

Date to be reviewed: Autumn 2018