

# Home Learning Policy

## Broadmayne First School

**Approved by:**  
**Governors**

**Date:** May 2019

**Last reviewed on:** May 2019

**Next review due by:** May 2021

## **Introduction**

Broadmayne First School has created this Home Learning Policy after consultation with pupils, staff and parents.

Research from the Education Endowment Foundation suggests that short focused tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught, and which are built upon in school, are likely to be more effective than regular daily homework. John Hattie (a professor of education and director of the Melbourne Education Research Institute) says that it is good practice to use homework to reinforce what pupils have learned in lessons. Feedback from parental questionnaires also support this view.

At Broadmayne, we see home learning as an important link between home and school. One of the aims of our teaching is to equip children to be as independent as possible, and we believe that home learning can play a positive role in this.

We recognise the importance of family life - home learning should not prevent children from taking part in out of school activities or valuable family time.

## **Rationale**

After consultation with all stakeholders, the school agrees that home learning should be as easy as possible for parents to manage, with an aim to support and develop children's learning and independence. It should be linked directly to what is being learned in class, and should support learning directly.

## **Agreed Home Learning Tasks**

Each year group will provide home learning in the following areas:

Maths - each class will provide parents with overviews of each maths topic as it is being taught, with explanations and worked examples.

An explanation of what is being covered in phonics and/or spelling lessons, with examples that can be practised at home.

A reading task - children are expected to read a little every day. At Broadmayne we celebrate all types of reading -it does not have to be a school reading book. We ask that parents record what children read in their reading books, as this helps us target our teaching, and understand what children enjoy reading. Children who are reading independently are welcome to fill in their reading records themselves.

A project based piece of learning will also be made available -this is optional for parents and children to take part in if they wish.

The table below outlines the home learning specific to each year group - there will occasionally be adaptations and changes to this, but it is the intention of the school to make home learning expectations as clear as possible.

Home Learning Expectations	
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children will take home a 'Phoneme Book' every day while they are learning their Phase 2 and 3 sounds to practise and consolidate their daily phonics learning in school</li> <li>• Children are encouraged to read at home with an adult every day - this includes sharing books together and adults reading to their child</li> <li>• Simple maths practice ideas will be shared with parents as the year progresses</li> <li>• Posts on Tapestry can deepen learning if parents look at them with their children.</li> <li>• Children are given a News Book in which they can draw and write to share their news with their class. Parents can write for their children if they wish as we find it really helpful for children to see adults writing</li> <li>• From January, a summary of literacy and numeracy learning objectives for the whole class for the week are stuck into the yellow reading diaries, so that learning can be supported at home if wished</li> </ul>
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Seasons Dairy' - a senses diary for each season</li> <li>• Half termly overviews of phonics and spelling will be shared plus specific sounds sent home for children to practise each half term</li> <li>• Children are encouraged to read at home with an adult daily, this can include sharing books and parents reading to their child</li> <li>• Maths ideas will be shared linked to each topic as it is taught in the class</li> </ul>
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths ideas will be shared linked to each topic as it is covered</li> <li>• Children are encouraged to read daily at home with an adult</li> <li>• half termly overviews of phonics and spelling will be shared, so you can support your child in their learning</li> <li>• Optional activities will be available, linked to termly topics</li> </ul>
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths information linked to each new topic, with worked examples, will be shared with parents</li> <li>• Children are encouraged to read at least four times a week at home with an adult</li> <li>• Children are provided with Times Table Rock stars (ttrockstars) logins and are encouraged to access this at home - other times tables work will be sent home as needed</li> <li>• Weekly spelling or phonics information</li> <li>• Optional project work will be available, linked to termly topics</li> </ul>
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly spelling/phonics information linked to what is being taught in class</li> <li>• Children are encouraged to read at least four times a week at home</li> <li>• Children are provided with Times Table Rock stars (ttrockstars) logins and are encouraged to access this at home - other times tables work will be sent home as needed</li> <li>• Maths information linked to each new topic, with worked examples, will be</li> </ul>

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## Expectations

Parents can expect the school to:

- provide written information about what their child will be learning in maths, including worked examples to help understanding
- send home information either half termly or weekly on what is being looked at in phonics and/or spellings in their child's class to provide the opportunity to practise these at home (in Reception and Y1 this will be in the form of a phonics book)
- provide information as much as possible stuck into Home Learning Books, rather than on pieces of paper
- provide a school reading book and reading diary.
- provide planning overviews termly or half termly to inform parents of the topics and specific areas of learning that will be covered in each class -these will be published on the school website, but there will be printed copies available from the school office if necessary
- each class will continue to send home a termly or half termly letter, keeping parents informed of other things happening in each class, such as PE days or planned trips
- provide leaflets to help support your understanding of the learning taking place in school

Children can expect the school to:

- Provide help and advice with home learning if they ask
- Provide every child with named books for home learning and reading diaries
- Ensure that they are not given home learning that they haven't looked at in school already (unless they are asked to research a project)

The school expects parents to:

- Use the information sent home to help support their child's learning
- Let the class teacher know if there is a problem
- Complete projects and other written work only if they feel able -this is not a requirement
- Record all reading in the reading diaries - the school strongly encourages parents to read at home with their child as often as possible, including shared reading and reading to children by an adult. We recognise that as children progress in confidence and skill they may not be reading to an adult, and the school is happy for independent readers to record their reading themselves in their diaries. Equally, at Broadmayne we celebrate all reading, and as such encourages parents to record all reading in the diaries, and not just school reading books.