



The Gateway Primary Academy

Home Learning Policy

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Written by: Mr Cassem

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Introduction

At our school we believe that some form of work at home is desirable for school age children however it should always be an enjoyable experience for both children and parents. Our home learning is used to reinforce and support learning in school.

- It provides opportunity for parents to discuss learning with their children and provides some understanding and insight into what their children are currently learning in school.
- It enables parents to work in partnership with their child's class teacher and be actively involved in their child's learning and progress.
- It enables children to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently in preparation for secondary school education

Approach to Home Learning

- Home learning supports and extends current work in the classroom, but is not used to complete unfinished class work.
- Home learning focuses on basic English and maths skills plus topic based tasks to build on class topic work.
- Some home learning tasks are open ended to give children the opportunity to personalise their approach to the task and apply their individual learning styles
- We encourage children and families to plan for completion of home learning tasks by the deadline given whilst maintaining attendance and participation in out of school clubs and activities
- Children are given clear instructions about the learning tasks to be completed and the opportunity to evaluate and review their home learning back in a designated class lesson
- Parents are provided with written guidelines to support learning at home. These guidelines are re-issued at the beginning of each school year during our meet the teacher sessions.

- Parents are made aware when their child starts school of the role of reading as a major part of their child's home learning from Reception to Year 6
- Parents are encouraged to discuss any home learning issues with staff on an informal basis to ensure home learning remains an enjoyable activity for children.
- The amount and nature of home learning set increases as children progress through the school.

How is home learning set?

Home learning is set through our online Google Classrooms. At the beginning of the year, instructions are sent on Arbor to join our Google Classrooms. Work can either be submitted through Google Classroom or via a printed copy in a home learning log. Parents should request a home learning log from their class teacher.

What home learning is set?

Reception

- Daily reading recorded in a home reading diary (both scheme - Big Cat books and picture books)
- Access to online English and Maths activities (Spelling Shed and Maths Shed)
- Phonics activities
- Topic work will be set once a half term

Years 1 and 2

- Daily reading recorded in a home reading diary (both scheme and picture books)
- Fortnightly online English/Maths activities (Spelling Shed and Maths Shed)
- Fortnightly phonics and spelling task
- Project tasks 2/3 times per term to support the wider curriculum (e.g. science, history, geography)

Years 3 and 4

- Daily reading recorded in a home reading diary.
- Weekly spellings
- Maths or English activity (includes online tasks)
- Project tasks 2/3 times per term to support the wider curriculum (e.g. science, history, geography)
- Regular learning of times-tables up to 12 x 12 including the use of Times Table Rockstars.

Years 5 and 6

Children in Year 5 and 6 will spend longer on homework in preparation for the demands of Key Stage 3 and the tasks set will reflect this.

- Daily reading recorded in a home reading diary.
- Weekly spellings
- English and Maths activities (includes online tasks)
- Project tasks 2/3 times per term to support the wider curriculum (e.g. science, history, geography)
- Regular learning of times-tables up to 12 x 12

In addition to the above the teacher may set additional personalised work for pupils to reinforce learning support or intervention programmes.

Online Home Learning:

At The Gateway Primary Academy, we use the following online programs to support home learning. The children's log ins will be stuck in their home learning log for them to use at home.

- Spelling Shed and Maths Shed
- Letter join (KS1)
- Timestable Rockstars (KS2)
- SPAG.com (KS2)

Recording Home Learning – Home Learning Logs

When requested, children are provided with a Home learning log to record their learning at home. Instructions and guidance for homework are provided on a learning log planner, which is published on Google Classroom. Contact your child's class teacher to request a paper copy of the home learning.

Home learning is set, evaluated and reviewed through class and peer group discussions in a home learning log lesson. See below for more information on how home learning will be marked.

How is Home Learning Marked?

Teachers will monitor the completion of home learning. Home learning is marked through a process of self and peer evaluation with verbal feedback given plus a symbol or written comments where appropriate. At KS1 marking will confirm the home learning has been

completed and the child's work acknowledged. Comments on Google Classroom and feedback will be available.

The Role of Parents

- Parents are expected to support their child to join their online classroom.
- Parents are expected to support their child by allocating time and a suitable place where their child can do their homework and provide suitable materials.
- Parents are expected to read at home with their child from Reception to Year 6
- Parents are encouraged to make it clear to their child that they value homework and to support the school in explaining how it can help their child learn
- Parents are expected to give support initially to their child to ensure he/she understands and plans the task to be done but then leaves the child to complete the task with increasing independence at KS2.
- Parents are encouraged to praise their child when work is completed and take time to discuss the work and check it for accuracy.
- Parents are asked to ensure their child returns their learning log to school on the designated day.

Support for Parents

At the front of the children's home reading record, parents are provided with guidance and advice for how best to support their child's reading at home. This provides guidance on questioning and information about the expectations within each year group. Further information can be found on the school website.

Home learning guidelines for parents can be found in the front cover of their child's home learning log. These are discussed with parents at the first parents meeting in the school year (September).

Parents are encouraged to discuss any concerns with homework with the class teacher.

This policy will be made available to parents on the school website.