

# Kingsland CE Primary School

## Home Learning Policy



### Let your light shine

**“Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16**

**Let your light shine** on our vision:

*As God's children, overflowing with His light, we will shine before others to inspire, nurture and bring joy so all may embrace life in its fullness to the glory of God.*

**September 2023**

# Kingsland CE Primary School

## Home Learning Policy

Date for full implementation:

September 2023

Review date:

September 2026



### Definition

'Home Learning' is any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or other carers. Home Learning is a regular part of children's routine, relevant to what is happening in school and planned as an integral part of children's learning.

### Aims

The school believes that Home Learning is worthwhile because:

- it encourages independent learning and gives time for self-reflection
- it consolidates and deepens understanding
- it broadens knowledge
- it can be great fun to have time to develop and extend personal interests
- it helps to develop child, parent and teacher partnerships, enabling parents to be actively involved in and informed about their child's learning
- it encourages speaking, listening, thinking, research and creative skills
- it prepares pupils for secondary education; developing age appropriate skills of self-discipline and time management

### Principles

- Pupils and parents will be given clear guidance about when Home Learning tasks will be set and when it will be due in. There will be manageable and realistic time windows for the completion of Home Learning.
- School values the out of school activities, relaxation and play time that pupils need and will therefore set work that will not impinge unreasonably on these vital opportunities.
- Home Learning tasks that are set will be differentiated as necessary so that it will provide learning challenges that are not beyond the abilities of each child.
- Home Learning will complement and support planned learning outcomes; it will relate to and supplement class work.
- Although normally set weekly, teachers will be sensitive to workload pressures for pupils and themselves, and Home Learning might not be given, for example at the beginnings and ends of terms.
- No Home Learning will be set in school holidays, although optional tasks may be suggested. We always encourage reading for pleasure. Home learning for Y6 children may be set during holidays in the build up to National Assessments.

- Parents will be expected to support their child with Home Learning and in other opportunities for learning at home. It is appreciated that children do not all have access to the same level of support at home. Parents are respectfully asked to sign Home Learning diaries or comment in home/school reading liaison books in order to establish communication and partnership for the benefit of the children. If Home Learning tasks have not been completed for any reason, then we encourage the children to be able to explain why.
- Home Learning tasks given to children will gradually increase in their demands. The role of parents will change as children become more independent in their learning, so that the parents become 'enablers', providing an appropriate learning environment and support at home.
- Teachers will expect written Home Learning tasks to be handed in on time in order to develop self-discipline and to set standards that will be expected at secondary school.
- Teachers will value the children's Home Learning tasks: by giving verbal feedback, by marking written tasks, by supporting where there have been difficulties and by celebrating effort and achievement.
- Children may sometimes mark their own Home Learning tasks under the direction of the class teacher to maximise learning.
- Teachers will understand if a child has been unable to complete work for good reason e.g. through illness.
- Home Learning should be viewed positively, creating an enthusiastic and lifelong work ethic.
- If children are unsure what to do with a Home Learning task, they should seek further guidance from their Class teacher.
- Home Learning will be differentiated as appropriate for different ages and abilities, taking into account any Special Educational Needs.

## **Equal Opportunities**

- It is appreciated that children do not all have access to the same level of support or resources; therefore school, if necessary, will make resources available.
- It will not be assumed that a child has access to ICT at home.
- School will offer guidance to all new parents on early reading skills.
- The school will provide 'Question Stem' comprehension question guides for parents and a Reading Record Booklet for every child.

## Home Learning Expectations

At the beginning of the school year, parents will be informed by the Class teacher of when Home Learning tasks will be given and when they will be due in.

Year group	Reading	Phonics	Writing / Spelling	Mathematics
YR	Daily sharing of a story / reading. Read and recognise tricky (red) words  Children will have a book bag in which to keep their book and Reading Record booklet. Guidance about early reading will be given to all new parents.	Learning sounds / phonics and red sight words	Letter formation	Games or practical activities

**Timescale:** children at this age learn best through repetition and 'little and often'. It is anticipated that any 'formal' learning activity will take a maximum of 20 minutes.

Year group	Reading	Phonics	Writing / Spelling	Mathematics
Y1	Children are expected to read for a minimum of 10 minutes every evening  Pupils will have a Read Write Inc. book to read at home following their practice in school.	Read Write Inc. sounds practise	Practising new Read Write Inc. sounds	Games, practical or consolidation activities, or learning basic number facts

**Timescale:** children at this age learn best through repetition and 'little and often'. It is anticipated that any 'formal' learning activity will take a maximum of 30 minutes.

Year group	Reading	Spelling	Writing	Mathematics
Y2 - Y6	Children are expected to read every evening.  Parents are expected to read WITH their child, ask relevant probing questions to develop understanding and comprehension, and to sign Reading Record booklets weekly.	Children may have spelling lists to be learned weekly, which may include sentence-based work.  KS2 pupils will also have a personal spelling bank of words that are relevant to their own personalised learning.	Children may be given a writing task, sometimes based on the aspect of grammar / punctuation they have been learning about in lessons.	Tasks will often be based around the learning of basic number facts: Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS), or will be consolidation tasks based on what the children have learnt in lessons.  Ongoing learning on multiplication tables.

**Timescale:**  
Year 2: 15 minutes reading every day; 30 minutes maths weekly; 30 minutes spelling / writing weekly  
Years 3-6: 20 minutes reading every day; 30 minutes maths weekly; 30 minutes spelling / writing weekly

**Additional Home Learning Tasks:**

Children may be set an **occasional** topic, research or project work. This may be a short task or it may be a long term project.

**Home Learning Books:**

Pupils in Years 1 - 6 are provided with a **Home Learning Book** in which to record details, clearly stating the task, date given and date due. Parents are asked to sign each entry in the Home Learning Book when it has been completed and to support the children in returning their completed Home Learning to school on time.

**Failure to complete homework on time:**

Teachers will check that Home Learning tasks have been completed. If no adequate reason has been given to explain why, then the pupil will be expected to complete the work at playtime. It is not the school's intention for pupils to miss playtime activity on any regular basis. Parents will be contacted if this is an on-going issue. Home Learning efforts and achievements may be discussed at termly Parents' Evenings.

**Reading TO a child:**

An adult reading TO a child is extremely powerful and enhances a child's reading ability significantly. **Parents are requested to read DAILY to their child, throughout their time at primary school.** If for any reason this is not possible for parents (e.g. parent learning disability), we would offer confidential support and discussion to make alternative arrangements.

**Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

Home Learning will be formally monitored for consistency and appropriateness each term by subject leaders. Evaluations will be discussed and reviews made if necessary at subsequent staff meetings each term.

Home Learning will be evaluated and reviewed as an aspect of subject reviews, development and policy renewal.