



Home Learning Policy

Portishead Primary School



September 2021

Introduction:

This guidance is to enable and support learning at home. We value all of the enthusiastic and supportive guidance parents give to their children at home and we want to assist with this to ensure all children meet their potential.

Aims:

- To ensure set work is consistent across the school and in line with age related expectations
- To help children take ownership of their own learning.
- To develop children's excitement and passion for their learning.
- To aid parents in supporting their children at home and have an understanding of how it fits in with classroom learning, as well as gaining a good understanding of their child's progress.

Fundamental principles:

The fundamental principles which underpin the home learning policy are:

- A firm understanding that learning continues beyond the school.
- That opportunities to repeat, explain and analyse knowledge helps it to 'stick'.
- Reading regularly should be part of a child's routine.
- Basic maths skills, such as multiplication tables and number facts should be regularly practiced.
- Spelling patterns and key words/ Y34 Y56 statutory spellings should be regularly practiced
- An increase in challenge with age and consistency of practice across the school.
- Children should take responsibility for their learning from an early age.
- Opportunities for 'over learning' by older children are exploited by teaching staff.

Overview of home learning tasks

- Reading: We strongly believe that reading is the foundation for learning. It is important that children develop a good reading habit from an early age. Every child has a reading record and reading book. **Parents are encouraged to listen to their child read daily**, and we expect a written comment at least three times a week. Research has shown that children who read for 20 minutes per day will learn new vocabulary faster, and will read 1.8 million words a year, whereas a child who only reads for 5 minutes per day will only experience 282,000 words per year and will not score as highly on Standardised tests such as SATs.

For older children who are fluent, 'free readers', they do not need to read aloud to an adult every day; this can be done silently to themselves. However, it is still important for parents to check in with the children and ask questions about what they have read. Y5 and Y6 children can write in their own reading records when they have read, but an adult at home will also need to sign to say they have read. This will enable us to see how much reading is being done at home. Each entry will need the date, the book being read, how much was read and any comments about how they got on. This is an ideal place for parents to communicate with the class teacher if they have any concerns over their reading or home learning. Teachers will aim to respond to any comments. Where children are not regularly reading at home, parents will receive a gentle reminder and then will be invited in to speak to the teacher or a senior leader to discuss any barriers they may be facing.

- Other subject areas:

	Phonics/ Spelling	Maths	English/ Grammar	Times tables	Other
EYFS	Sight words and sounds sent home at the beginning of each phonics phase				Handwriting patterns sent home for parents' reference
Y1	Weekly spellings sent home focusing on the sounds learnt that week			Times Tables Rockstars online 2 x 10 min a week (From summer term)	Occasional topic/science/RE research or creative task
Y2	Weekly spellings sent home focusing on the sounds/patterns learnt that week	Worksheet to consolidate class work alternate weeks	Grammar worksheet/ reading comprehensions/ handwriting practice sheets alternate weeks	Times tables rockstars online 2 x 10 min a week	Occasional topic/science/RE research or creative task
Y3/4/5	Weekly spellings, tested each week (Overviews sent home at the start of each term)	MyMaths/ worksheet to consolidate class work alternate weeks	Grammar worksheet/ reading comprehensions/ handwriting practice sheets alternate weeks	Times tables rockstars online 2 x 10 min a week	Occasional topic/science/RE research or creative task
Y6	Weekly spellings, tested each week (Overviews sent home at the start of each term)	Weekly Maths workbook exercise to consolidate learning in class. Doodle Maths online games (3 x 10 mins weekly)	Weekly grammar workbook exercise to consolidate learning in class Doodle Spelling/ Grammar online games (3 x 10 mins weekly)	Times tables rockstars online 2 x 10 min a week	Occasional topic/science/RE research or creative task

All children benefit from practising key learning skills at home. Children with SEND or who are unable to access the tasks set for the rest of the class are provided with a differentiated task to complete. This should be able to be completed with minimal adult help at home.

Roles and responsibilities

Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education and home learning is an important part of the process. Parents have signed a home school agreement and therefore committed to working in partnership with the school.

We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the home learning tasks set and hand them in by Tuesday. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly and by discussing the work that their child is doing. Parents need to communicate to the class teacher if the homework is too easy/difficult or if their child has been unable to complete their tasks.

Teachers will set home learning every Thursday, and will add it to Class Charts/Teams, so that parents can access the learning electronically. Home learning will always be acknowledged with a housepoint, and the work will be looked at by the teacher. In KS2, home learning may be marked as a whole class by the children, so that they can see their errors and correct them themselves. Unlike classwork, home learning will not be 'deep-marked' or given a written comment.

Teachers will check online platforms such as MyMaths and Times Tables Rockstars weekly to check that children have completed the tasks.

Consequences of not completing home learning

- 1) Class teacher will have a conversation with parent and child to discuss any barriers to their learning.
- 2) Invite child to Home Learning Club. (This is offered by invitation only for children that struggle to complete their home learning at home.)
- 3) Parents to meet with a Senior Leader to discuss the signed home school agreement

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