



Home Learning Policy October 2019

Purpose of Home Learning

At different times, Home Learning is designed to:

- Develop effective partnerships in children's learning between home and school
 - Take learning into the home to develop families' knowledge and understanding of what children are learning at school
- (Note: at the start of each term, parents and carers receive an outline of the term's learning, including information about topics and themes to be covered. Additionally, each week parents will receive a 'What we are doing in class' letter outlining what the children will be learning for the week ahead)*
- Reinforce learning that has taken place at school
 - Develop children's love of and engagement in learning
 - Increase children's self-discipline and independence
 - Prepare children for the demands of homework at secondary school

Principles behind Home Learning

At Walnut Tree Walk Primary, the provision of Home Learning tasks should:

- Be relevant to learning that takes place in school
- Enthuse and motivate children to want to learn
- Provide children with appropriate challenge
- Not provide an obstacle to family life or prevent children taking part in other activities
- Be manageable for teachers, without significantly affecting the time and energy they devote to the core activities of planning and assessment for the classroom

Provision

The nature of Home Learning will change as children go through school, while always adhering to the purpose and principles outlined above.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Reading is the key to children being able to learn in any area. Therefore, home learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage should focus on developing children's enthusiasm for books.

Key Stage 1 and 2

The emphasis on reading should continue. Additionally, at the start of each term you will be able to access a Home Learning booklet on the school's website that the teachers at Walnut Tree Walk have created to match the curriculum taught at this school. The aim of these packs is to provide resources and activities for parents to work on with their child at home if they wish to do so. Each booklet has been designed to complement the work the children will be doing in class and to give opportunities for discussion about their topic each term. Inside the booklet are a number of Home Learning Projects as well as an overview of the child's topic, suggested places to visit for the topic, an overview of the term's Literacy and Numeracy work, and useful websites to look at if they have access to a computer. The children are welcome to share the work they have completed at home with their teacher and class, but it will not be formally marked.

At the back of the booklet are a list of some suggested websites. Some are specific to the individual topic, but some are Literacy and Maths-based and can be used for all year groups.

Sometimes children may be expected to complete additional individual tasks to support a particular area of their learning.

Years 4, 5 and 6

Year 4, 5 and 6 children will be set two to three pieces of homework per week, mainly focusing on maths or spelling, punctuation and grammar using the IXL website which the school subscribes to. Children who do not have access to the internet at home will be offered an after school session so they can complete the homework using the school's computers.

Policy Review

This Home Learning Policy will be reviewed every two years by the staff and governors at Walnut Tree Walk.

Date of Policy: October 2019

Review Date: October 2021