
Home Learning Policy

Summer 2017

Summary

This policy outlines the Home Learning procedures for Fieldhead Carr Primary School.

Author's Role	Deputy Headteacher
Date	Summer 2017
Internal Review Date	Summer 2018
Review date	As changes

Introduction

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular home learning is important, since it gives pupils the opportunity to practise and improve on basic skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help them throughout their time at school, and in adult life.

Aims and Objectives of home learning

At Fieldhead Carr we see home learning as a positive way of extending children's learning and a way of strengthening our partnerships with parents / carers.

However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While home learning is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of activities provided by clubs and organisations, which can contribute greatly to a child's all-round development.

The purpose of home learning

- To give regular practice of important basic skills, particularly in reading.
- To reinforce, support or extend work done in class.
To encourage personal organisation and responsibility.
- To encourage independence and creative thinking.
To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning.

The types of home learning

Home learning may include any of the following:

Learning Logs – these are open ended learning targets enabling children to think very creatively about a specific theme. Children may be asked to find out information about a topic, find an object for display or to carry out a simple task.

Reading - Ideally every child should do some form of reading each day (recommended 10 to 20 minutes). This can include the child being read to, the child reading aloud to an adult or, for more experienced readers, reading on their own.

Times tables and number bonds - children are encouraged to commit these to memory to improve speed of recall. Teachers will specify particular tables for their classes to learn.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

The type of home learning outlined above is generally accessible for all pupils. For pupils on the SEN register it may be appropriate for teachers to set home learning linked to specific IEP targets.

Role of the Class Teacher

- To set up regular home learning in an easily followed routine.
- To give children the opportunity to challenge themselves through mastery using the Basic – Advanced – Mastery questions
- To ensure that home learning is set consistently across classes.
- To ensure any home learning is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete home learning tasks.
- To mark home learning when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

Role of Parents/Carers

At Fieldhead Carr Primary School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with home learning. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved, as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

Parents are asked;

- To sign a home school agreement agreeing to support their child with home learning.
- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts their home learning.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their home learning.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their home learning.
- To become actively involved and support their child with home learning activities.
- To make it clear that they value home learning and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

Home learning should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school.

MONITORING AND EVALUATING THE HOME LEARNING POLICY:

The Headteacher, staff members, and members of the Governing Body will be monitoring the effectiveness of the home learning policy. Parents will be asked for their comments too, as will children. The review date below will be when this policy document and the practice that has gone on during the year will be evaluated, and changes made, should they be necessary. These will be discussed and agreed by parents, Governors and staff.

Example:

Year 6 Learning Log Autumn Term	Basic (3 respectful points)	Advanced (4 responsible points)	Depth (5 persevering points)
I enjoy reading, writing and speaking	Find a book or website about the tanks used in World War 1 and record 8 facts that you found.	Write a set of instructions on how to send a message during World War1 by pigeon.	Write an adventure story about the dogs or pigeons that carried secret messages during World War One.
I enjoy working with numbers	http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/mental-maths Play the Speed Challenge game. Write down as many answers as you can!		Ask Miss odB for the long multiplication and long division questions.
I enjoy science		Can you plant a seed at home and watch it grow? Record what happens to your seed over time.	Can you set up a compost heap at home and write/draw what happens to it over time?
I enjoy painting, drawing and visualising	Draw a detailed picture of a nurse or soldiers uniform from World War 1.	Make a model of a vehicle that would have been used during World War 1.	Design and make a board game about life in Britain during World War 1.
I enjoy doing hands on activities, sports and dance	Research how the soldiers would have kept fit during World War 1.		Make up your own training regime for soldiers in WW1.

<p>I enjoy making and listening to music</p>		<p>Learn a song that the soldiers may have sung during World War 1 and share it with the class.</p>	<p>Invent your own musical instrument that could have been used as a warning sound in the war.</p>
<p>I enjoy working with others</p>	<p>Find 5 important dates linked to World War 1 and write them down in chronological order. Share them with a friend and add their dates to your list.</p>		<p>Find a recipe from before World War 1 and make it for your family Record what you did.</p>