



# The Lea Primary School and Nursery

## Home Learning Policy

### Policy Sign off

Reviewer	Date	Approver	Date
James Berry / Caroline Thomas	Jan 2021	TLC (statutory)	Jan 2021
Next Review		Jan 2024	

### **Why have Home Learning?**

Research shows that where purposeful home learning is undertaken and there is a positive and active partnership between home and school, pupils' attainment is improved.

We have drawn up a home learning policy which provides a clear framework of activities designed to enhance learning and challenge the children in a variety of ways.

Home learning has several purposes and will vary according to the age of the child and the task in hand. At The Lea, it is our intention during the course of a child's time with us to provide opportunities to:

- Practise and consolidate skills introduced in class
- Prepare for future classwork
- Develop the child's planning and organisational skills
- Encourage good habits and self-discipline
- Inspire independent learning
- Deliver a more flexible approach which takes into consideration the demands of family life so that parents can plan ahead
- Encourage parents to be involved in their child's learning
- Strengthen the links between home and school

### **What can I expect for my child?**

#### **School planners**

Children in years 1 – 6 will receive a school planner in September. There is an expectation that parents, children and staff will collaboratively to use this to set and monitor home learning (including reading and Maths regular practise).

#### **Reading**

All children are expected to read regularly. For younger children, this may involve reading to, or discussing and sharing a book with the child. Older children may read independently, but parents can be involved by asking about the book, who the characters are, whether or not the child is enjoying the book and listening occasionally as reading aloud is a skill that still needs practise. Children can broaden their experience by reading a whole range of other reading materials e.g. non-fiction, recipes, magazines, TV listings, computer programmes, signs, instructions for games, captions etc. so that they begin to understand that reading is an important and necessary skill in everyday life. Every child has access to the school library and can choose a book to take home.

## Maths

Quick application of basic maths facts is a key element successful maths learning as children move through the school. This includes the ability to quickly recall basic addition and subtraction facts within 10 and 20 (e.g.  $4 + 3$  or  $9 - 2$ ). It also includes the recall of times tables. At The Lea we expect all children by the end of year 4 to be able to recall times tables facts up to  $12 \times 12$ . This can be supported by regular practise at home and through the use of online learning platforms which the school provides access to – Numbots and times tables rockstars.

**Set out below is a guide to home learning in all Year groups:**

## Early Years

Sharing books and reading activities e.g. key words, longer stories and non-fiction. As well as reading the children will have library books and home learning books with challenges and activities to complete over the half term.

## Key Stage One

In addition to reading, phonics and times tables practise, pupils in Years 1 and 2 have Home Learning Passports. These include Maths, English and Topic or Science challenges to complete over the duration of half a term. Reading records will be used to communicate with parents when appropriate.

## Key Stage Two

Alongside practising times tables, reading and spelling, pupils in Years 3 to 6 have Home Learning Logs. Grids are sent out half termly by class teachers; these contain low threshold, high ceiling activities across the curriculum. This means that all children can access the tasks, challenge themselves and present their learning in a number of ways. The Home School Contact Book will be used to communicate with parents when appropriate.

\* Please see attached appendix.

Occasionally, additional Home Learning may be set. There will be plenty of notice given to the children for this. As Year 6 approach their end of Key Stage Assessments, the children may be asked to undertake specific practise tasks to prepare them.

## **What will teachers do?**

- Use Home School books and school planners to communicate with parents as appropriate
- Discuss any problems with the child (or parent, if appropriate) should they arise
- Keep to agreed days and times for setting and collecting home learning, where possible
- Allow children adequate time to complete the activities before handing it in
- Provide open ended tasks that allow children to challenge themselves and present their ideas in a range of ways.
- Celebrate the children's learning through praise and recognition of individual efforts.

## **How can parents help?**

- Support the home learning policy by working in partnership with your child and his/her teacher(s)
- Listen to your child and help them practise spellings and times tables regularly
- Ensure home learning is returned to school on time
- Encourage your child to undertake tasks in a suitable place away from distractions at an appropriate time of day
- Encourage your child to challenge him/herself; join in with their learning
- Communicate with your child's teacher(s) via the Home School Contact Books in KS2 or Reading Records in Reception and KS1 about the home learning

## **What can children do to help themselves?**

- Ensure you take your home learning home and bring it back on time
- Remember what to do and share your home learning activities with you parents
- Challenge yourself and show a growth mindset
- Ask for help when you need it
- Take responsibility for organising yourself and completing the activities