

## 10 Things You Can Do To Help your Child Learn

- 1 Give your child confidence through lots of praise and encouragement.
  - As a parent, you have tremendous power to strengthen your child's confidence – and confidence is vital to learning.
  - Provide specific praise that focuses on a particular aspect of their work. Comments such as, "I like the way you have..." is more effective than, "You're clever!"
- 2 Read to, and with, your child as much as possible.
  - Hearing your child read and reading to them has a positive impact on their learning.
- 3 Encourage children to observe and talk about their surroundings.
  - Even young children can be helped to read notices and signs, for example and understand what they mean.
- 4 Make use of your local library.
  - Look out for special events and services for children.
- 5 Visit museums and places you think your child might find interesting.
  - Children have free admission to local and major national museums and art galleries.
- 6 If your children like watching television, watch it with them sometimes and encourage them to talk about what they have seen. They will get more out of the experience.
- 7 Try to set time aside to do 'homework' activities with young children
- 8 Wherever possible, try to provide a reasonably quiet place for children to do home learning (or help them to get to other places where 'homework' can be done).
- 9 Encourage your child to discuss 'homework' with you, including feedback from teachers.
- 10 Help your child to see the enjoyable aspects of home learning.



# HOME LEARNING POLICY

a summary for parents – September 2019



'We Strive to Improve  
Heart and Mind'

At Chilton Foliat Primary School, we believe that home learning is an essential part of all children's education. It gives them the opportunity to extend and consolidate learning experienced in lesson time, it also encourages them to produce creative, reflective and investigative work - independent of the class teacher. It also develops skills in organisation and a sense of responsibility.

Learning is a shared responsibility between children, parents and school as outlined in our Home School Agreement. In order to achieve this goal we should all work together in partnership, enriching the curriculum, extending it to the home, and building on experiences shared both inside and outside school.

# HOME LEARNING POLICY

## The main purposes of home learning are:

- To extend school learning and give children the opportunity to consolidate and reinforce their learning, particularly in English and maths (may be in a cross curricular approach).
- To encourage children to become independent learners.
- To encourage self-discipline, perseverance and good study habits.
- To prepare for the next stage of education.
- To increase pupils' self-esteem and the realisation that their achievements are regarded as important by home and school.
- To make use of a variety of learning resources at home.

## Through this policy we aim to:

- Encourage a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Meet the individual needs of children.
- Make expectations about homework clear to children, parents and other carers.
- Extend the opportunities provided for learning.
- Improve the depth of understanding and the quality of partnership between home and school.

## Amount of homework and examples of tasks:

We recognise that the purposes and extent of homework change as children get older.

For children in the Foundation Stage, the focus will be on developing a partnership with parents or carers by involving them actively in their child(ren)s learning.

Learning key words and enjoying reading together will be the nature of English homework. Greatest emphasis will be on the importance of parents or carers reading with children, since children need regular opportunities to practise and to listen to others. We recommend that parents and other carers read with their children for between ten and twenty minutes a day.

For children in KS1, learning spellings, enjoying reading with an adult and then short maths and writing activities, alongside creative tasks will be the nature of homework.

For children in KS2 homework provides pupils with an opportunity to develop their skills of independent learning and to prepare for the increased homework demands that will be placed on them in secondary education. Reading, English tasks (including learning and writing spellings), maths and creative tasks all constitute homework in this Key Stage.

**The importance of regular reading (preferably on a daily basis) for pupils throughout the school cannot be over emphasised.**

Whenever possible, homework will be set weekly so that parents and carers can organise their routine at home. Individual teachers will inform parents of the homework days through class topic webs. Spellings and Times Tables will be tested weekly therefore will be set weekly.

In summary and following government guidelines, the times spent on homework should be:

## Expectations:

Year Group and Recommended Time Allocation for Homework	Homework
Reception – 1 hour (or as appropriate)	Sharing or reading text with the child every day Phonics – letter tiles and Jolly Phonics actions
<b>Key Stage 1</b> 1 hour per week (or as appropriate)	Sharing or reading text with the child every day Spelling of key words and spelling patterns Handwriting – individual letter formation English / maths / topic work - fortnightly
<b>Key Stage 2</b> Year 3 – 1.5 hours per week Year 4 – 2 hours per week Year 5 – 2.5 – 3 hours per week Year 6 – 2.5 – 3 hours per week	Reading - daily Spellings - weekly Times-tables - weekly English / maths / topic work – weekly On occasions Topic Homework is set and a longer period of time is given to complete the tasks.

Each class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable for the children.

## The role of the parents and carers:

Parent's responsibility with regard to homework has been agreed in the Home-School Agreement.

Parents and carers have a responsibility to:

- Provide a suitably quiet place where children can do their homework
- Support their child(ren) in completing their homework, but allow for independence
- Make it clear to their child(ren) that they value their homework
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed their homework to a good standard
- Join in with homework where it is required, especially with younger children to maximise the benefit for the children. It is okay to help!

Parents and teachers, through regular dialogue, can monitor the effectiveness of the Homework Policy and the homework itself at Parent Interviews, informal meetings and through comments made in pupil's Reading Records (KS1) or Homework Diaries (KS2).