Kirtlington
C.E. School

Home Learning Policy

Reviewed and approved by: FGB

Policy Reviewed: March 2026

Future Review: March 2027

Purpose
The aim of our home learning policy is to promote learning beyond the school day as an essential part of good education. We believe that home learning not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes that they need to be successful lifelong learners.

Role of teachers and parents/carers in supporting children
There is an explicit requirement to address home learning in the home-school agreement.

The headteacher will ensure that home learning is:

- an integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning
- appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- coordinated in order to be manageable for children and families

Teachers will ensure that:

- pupils and parents / carers are given a home learning timetable through class newsletters sent by email and available on the school website, indicating when home learning is due for completion
- home learning is set in line with guidance and agreed standards
- tasks are structured and their purpose explained to pupils ensuring they understand the task
- it is clear to pupils how their home learning consolidates and extends the work they are doing in school

How parents can help
The role of parents / carers in working with and supporting their children is very important in a variety of ways:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place where your child/children can work alone, or more often for younger children, together with an adult
- Make it clear to your children that you value the home learning they do, and support the school by explaining why home learning will help their learning
- Praise your children when they have completed their home learning
- Decide, as a family, when it is a good time for home learning to be attempted
- Discuss the work with your child, decide together if your help is needed and what form it might take
- Communicate with the teacher if the work is too hard.

Equality of opportunity
While most tasks can be differentiated, time does not allow us to give individual home learning tasks and children are encouraged to do as much as they are able. We welcome parent / carer feedback about the amount of help their child has needed. We will make every effort to combat disadvantage, for example by being prepared to allow parents and children after school access to resources such as ICT or providing paper copies of resources where necessary.

Current expectations

Reading

Daily reading is recommended for all primary age children for the following times:

- Reception – 5 minutes daily
- Y1-2 – 10 minutes daily
- Y3-4 – 20 minutes daily
- Y5-6 – 30 minutes daily

Every child is provided with a Kirtlington Primary School Reading Record.

For children in Reception to Year 4, we ask parents / carers to sign and date reading records. Reading skills will be taught as part of the weekly timetable.

Children in Y5-6 are expected to fill in their own reading record regularly (under the supervision of a parent / carer) with date, title of the book they are reading and a note of the pages read. The children are also encouraged to write comments about the books they have read.

Spelling
We use the Spelling Shed programme from EdShed for both classwork and home learning. Spellings and spelling rules are taught in class and every child in Y1-Y6 will be set weekly spellings to learn at home through the Spelling Shed online resource. Children should access Spelling Shed at least three times per week. Parents / carers are encouraged to contact us if they experience any problems accessing the programme.

Times Tables
We use Times Tables Rock Stars for times tables practice. Children in Y3-6 are set specific tables to focus on and are also able to access free play areas. Children should access Times Tables Rock Stars at least three times per week.

Main home learning activity
A home learning grid of activities is given to the children each term, along with an exercise book. Children can earn house points for completing a range of activities which support the term's topic and cross curricular learning. All home learning should be returned at the end of the term and a celebration display will be made for parents and children to see.

Children in Year 6 will be set additional work to support their SATs, using CGP workbooks. In the summer term Y6 children may receive more home learning in order to prepare them for secondary school.

We expect children to maintain the same standards of presentation for home learning as we set in school, for example to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil or black pen.

The work should always have been explained and discussed in class before coming home. It is our intention, and good practice, not to send work home that the child cannot do already i.e. parents / carers are not expected to teach new skills.

Feedback to children/parents
We endeavour to give feedback to children about their home learning and opportunities to share their work with the wider school community through open afternoons. House points and Dojos are allocated for the completion of activities.

Monitoring arrangements
The Governing Body will monitor feedback from pupils and parents / carers.

Teachers and senior leaders regularly review the effectiveness of home learning.

Stakeholder views are sought through parent / carer and pupil surveys.

Consultation
Parents / carers and pupils are consulted about home learning through the annual questionnaire.