

Our rationale

If we have a local lockdown or your child is shielding or self-isolating then home learning tasks will be given. These will be set online unless you advise us otherwise. Where possible they will be tasks which require little adult supervision, but for younger children parental support will usually be required. These tasks will follow the curriculum their peers are receiving in school or, in the case of a local lockdown the content that would be covered in school. **If your child is off school for any non Covid-19 reason home learning will be not be set.** Communication with the school is especially important at this time so we can work together to support you and your child.

Our aims:

- Recognise and celebrate learning that already happens at home
- Promote parents and children reading and talking together
- Provide opportunities for pupils to develop a growth mindset
- Provide opportunities for pupils to feel proud about pushing themselves beyond what is compulsory
- Encourage perseverance, self-discipline and pupils taking responsibility for their own learning
- Enable children to develop their learning independently, without always needing an adult's presence
- Be explicit with children about which homework is compulsory and which is optional
- Allow time for children to pursue interests outside of school and enable them to have unstructured time to themselves, including time to rest and relax
- Be explicit with parents about the ways in which they can help their child at home
- Communicate with parents if their child is not completing their home learning

Our expectations:

We expect all children to complete their home learning activities. This establishes routines and helps to develop a strong work ethic, self-motivation and greater independence. If your child is unwell or you are unable to help them, for example because you are sick, please inform the school and we'll stop sending home learning. If we don't hear from you we will expect work to be submitted for feedback. If your situation changes please inform the school and we can then start to set home learning. **If no communication is forthcoming and no work is submitted after 3 days, we will make follow up calls or email to see if you need more support.**

In addition to home learning tasks set by the school:

Reading - We recommend up to 20 minutes a day. This includes reading a range of texts, discussing the vocabulary, asking and answering questions and being read to.

Learning - . We recommend at least 5-10 minutes a day to learn spellings/phonics, key maths facts and times tables

Reading

The more children practise reading, the easier and more enjoyable it will become. Children who do not practise reading at home are very likely to fall behind and may well struggle throughout their school careers. The more parents read to their children, the larger their vocabulary will grow and the more they will develop their own love of reading. We encourage all children to read a range of texts including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Children should read a range of authors. They should read 'real' books as well as school reading books and may also choose to read magazines, newspapers or online.

Learning

When trying to learn spellings, tables facts or maths facts by rote, it is much more effective to practise 'little and often' rather once a week. The more children practise these, the easier they will be to remember. The quicker they can remember them automatically, the more their brain has space to work on other, higher level things. It is also important to stress that if we do not practise maths facts and spellings regularly, we will begin to forget them. That is why even older pupils will occasionally be given easy spellings – just to check they can still recall these instantly. When testing children on their spellings, please ensure that they can understand and explain the meaning of the word. Children may be asked to explain the meaning as part of their test; they may be asked to give an example of a word in the same family or asked to use the word in context, for example as part of dictation.

Additional work

Children of any age may occasionally be asked to do additional work including spelling and handwriting. Children will not be asked to regularly complete additional work unless it is part of an individual learning plan which has been agreed with parents.

Sections in bold are taken from government guidance