



Rationale

Willaston School's Home Learning Policy

We understand that 'Homework' is a very polarising concept. You either love the idea of it or hate it - just like Marmite! At Willaston School, we believe that offering children the opportunity to learn at home is an important part of our educational offer and forms a link in the partnership between home and school. In providing a purposeful home learning programme, we believe that we can develop an effective partnership with parents and carers and involve them directly in their children's education. We believe that proportionate, purposeful and relevant home learning supports learning undertaken in the classroom and helps to develop successful, independent learners.

What is meant by home learning?

Home learning is any learning or activities which pupils are asked to complete outside school time. This can either be on their own or with parents or carers.

Aims

Through a variety of carefully planned, age-appropriate approaches we aim:

- To ensure a consistency of approach across the school.
- To rehearse and reinforce learning, which has taken place in school.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to enjoy learning experiences together.
- To provide opportunities for parents, children and school to work in partnership.
- To make children and adults aware that school is not the only place that learning can happen.
- To help children to develop independent learning strategies.
- To prepare pupils in Year 6 for High School expectations.

Home Learning objectives

All tasks should:

- Give opportunities for all children to succeed.
- Be proportionate, purposeful and relevant.
- Be matched towards the children's needs.
- Be manageable for pupils, families and teachers.
- Not deprive the children of the opportunity to pursue their other interests.

We feel that home learning makes the greatest contribution when

- Children, parents and carers are very clear about what they need to do.
- Parents and carers are treated as partners in their child's learning
- Home Learning tasks are carefully planned and structured to support consolidation of learning.
- The homework policy is regularly monitored and evaluated to check that it supports the children's learning in the best possible way.

Expectations

School will:

- Ensure that the demands of Home Learning are manageable and rewarding for pupils and that they are manageable for parents and carers.
- Establish a regular pattern in setting and receiving Home Learning.
- It is not expected that Teachers mark home learning but it should be valued and acknowledged by the teacher.
- Recognise effort in class and assemblies.
- Children will not receive any negative consequences if Home Learning is not completed. However, they may be provided with time during the school day when it can be completed.

Learners will:

- Complete their homework to the best of their ability, taking into account resources available at home.

- Take responsibility to ask their teacher to explain homework if they are not sure what to do or if they need to borrow any resources.

Adults will try to:

- Provide opportunities for learners to complete their homework on time.
- Support their children to do their best.
- Provide help and support with homework where able and be actively involved.
- Communicate with their child's class teacher if there are difficulties with homework completion

Willaston School Homework Offer **Foundation Stage**

It is expected that:

- All pupils should be reading to an adult on a daily basis.
- New reading books will be sent home on a weekly basis.
- Word Walls need to be practised on a daily basis. (Starting after October half-term)
- Phonics and letter formation sheets for two new sounds will be sent home on a weekly basis. These are intended as an aid so adults are aware how they can support at home but are not required to be handed back in.
- We encourage adults to read to children every day and enjoy a good book together.

Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4)

It is expected that:

- All pupils should be reading to an adult on a daily basis.
- New reading books will be sent home on a weekly basis and will consist of a Guided Reading book and at least one independent book.
- Word Walls need to be practised on a daily basis. The children need to be able to read and spell all of these words. Spelling tasks/games will be made available on Spelling Shed.
- Children in Year 2, 3 and 4 need to learn their Times Tables. Access to TT Rockstars is available to enable the child to do this at home.

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- We encourage adults to read to children every day and enjoy a good book together.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6)

It is expected that:

- All pupils should be reading either to themselves or an adult on a daily basis.
- Independent reading books will be sent home on a regular basis.
- One piece of literacy (spelling, short writing task, short comprehension task, grammar etc) and one piece of maths homework will be sent home on a Monday and returned on the Friday. The homework will consolidate what the children have learned the week before.
- Children in Year 5 and 6 need to consolidate their Times Tables knowledge. Access to TT Rockstars is available to enable the child to do this at home.

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