



## HOME LEARNING POLICY

The aim of this document is to enable and support learning at home. We value all of the enthusiastic and supportive guidance parents give to their children at home and we want to assist with this to ensure all children meet their potential.

### Educational Research

Research tells us that learning and understanding are deepened through repetition and practise. Key skills such as learning times tables for maths, practising spelling patterns and reading daily can be completed at home and will have a positive impact on a child's learning outcomes.

### Our Aims

- To ensure that the home learning set is consistent across the school and in line with the age and stage of each child.
- To help children take ownership of their own learning.
- To aid parents in supporting their children at home and have an understanding of how it fits in with classroom learning.
- To reinforce learning that has taken place in school.
- To prepare children with skills needed for later in life (secondary school and work).

### At Oughtibridge, we believe that...

- Learning continues beyond school.
- Learning and understanding are deepened through repetition and practise.
- Reading should be part of a child's daily routine.
- Maths skills, such as multiplication tables and number facts should be regularly practised.
- Spelling patterns and key words should be regularly practised, preferably in the context of a sentence (when they are ready to do this).
- There should be an increase in challenge with age and consistency of practise across the school
- Children should take some responsibility for their learning from an early age.

### Reading

Children are encouraged to read regularly for both their own development and also for enjoyment.

Children in the Foundation Stage and in Years 1 and 2, will initially take home 2 books home a week:

- A Read Write Inc phonetically decodable 'book bag' book that reinforces the sounds they have been practicing in school and a story book that parents will read to their child for pleasure.
- As children progress with their phonic knowledge, they may also bring an additional phonetically decodable 'black and white' book home to give them further practise. This book they will have already read in school as part of their phonics lessons.

- When children have completed the phonics programme, they can then access additional books from the school reading scheme.

Children in Years 3 to 6, who have completed the phonics scheme, can independently choose a new home book.

## Reading for Pleasure

If you can encourage your child to read for pleasure, they will really reap the benefits. It might not seem like a particularly important task, but actually, research shows that reading for pleasure can be directly linked to children's success throughout their time at school and even into adulthood.

Reading for pleasure opens up new worlds for children. It gives them the opportunity to use their imagination to explore new ideas, visit new places and meet new characters. Interestingly, reading for pleasure also improves children's well-being and empathy. It helps them to understand their own identity, and gives them an insight into the world and the views of others.

Developing this love of reading starts with sharing books with your child throughout the day e.g before bed and taking your child to the library regularly. Once your child can read, it is still important to share books and discuss what they are reading with them.

## Reading Records

Every child from the Foundation Stage to Year 6 will have a reading record which either they or an adult fill when they are reading. This will enable us to see how much reading is being done at home and to support those who are finding this challenging. Each entry will need the date, the book being read, how much was read and any comments about how they got on. Confident readers may read alone and less confident readers should read aloud to an adult. Confident readers will still benefit from support and questioning from an adult. These are to be brought in daily and teachers will check and sign reading records on a weekly basis to ensure children are reading regularly. Rewards will be given to children who read at least 5 times a week at home.

## Our Home Learning Expectations

Every child across school is expected to complete home learning every week that is appropriate for their age and stage of their learning. This expectation will increase/change as they move through school.

### **Each week, children in the Foundation Stage are expected to:**

Read 5 times to an adult (this must be recorded in the child's reading record).

Practise their phonics (using the videos sent home through the Tapestry online platform).

### **Each week, children in Year 1 and Year 2 are expected to:**

Read 5 times to an adult (this must be recorded in the child's reading record).

Play a maths game.

Write a sentence about something they have enjoyed during that week.

### **Each week, children in Year 3, 4 and 5 are expected to:**

Read 5 times to an adult or to themselves (this must be recorded in the child's reading record).

Practise their spellings using Spelling Shed or paper-based activities, 5 times.

Practise their times tables using TTRockstars or through paper-based activities / games, 5 times.

Complete a Maths or English activity set by the class teacher.

**Each week, children in Year 6 are expected to:**

Read 5 times to an adult or to themselves (this must be recorded in the child's reading record).

Practise their spellings using Spelling Shed or paper-based activities, 5 times.

Practise their times tables using TTRockstars or through paper-based activities / games, 5 times.

Use their revision books to complete a Maths or English activity set by the class teacher.

\*Children with an identified SEND need may be offered a bespoke home learning package or have adaptations made to the expectations above to meet their own learner profile and targets.\*

## Expectations of Time

These are our expectations around how much time to spend on the home learning activities.

10 minutes reading (on each occasion).

5 minutes (on each occasion) practising spellings.

5 minutes (on each occasion) practising timetables.

No more than 30 minutes on an English or Maths activity.

The home learning we set will give your child an opportunity to repeat and practise learning that has taken place in school. If your child is finding the work too difficult or is taking longer than the expected amount of time to complete, please ask your child to stop. If this regularly happens, please talk to your child's class teacher who will be able to help.

## Monitoring Home Learning

Teachers or Teaching Assistants will check the homework sent to them and respond by marking this work weekly.

Overall the responsibility for enabling children to complete their home learning rests with parents, so if a child is not completing their home learning, we may invite parents into school to discuss how we can help them to support their child at home.

For the older children, Year 3 to Year 6, we will ask children to complete their work at 'homework club' which runs during a playtime.

We understand that at times there may be unforeseen circumstances meaning that home learning couldn't be completed. If this is the case, please to speak to your child's class teacher who will offer help and support as needed.