

Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery School

A Policy for Home Learning

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Agreed by staff and Governors- Spring term 2022

Review date – Spring term 2025

Introduction

Our policy at Grand Avenue is to set regular Home Learning according to the age and ability of each child. We believe that Home Learning is an essential part of education. Home Learning is defined as activities work or research which pupils can do at home. The links between progress at school and Home Learning are well researched and show that regular, well-structured and relevant Home Learning greatly enhances children's achievement.

We believe that home learning is valuable because it can;

- develop a pupil's ability to work independently
- reinforce skills taught in the classroom
- encourage self-organisation and self-motivation
- strengthen links between school and home
- establish work patterns that need to be developed at secondary school and in later life
- promote the enjoyment of reading
- promote a sense of responsibility

Policy and practice

Home Learning will focus on the basic skills of mathematics and English , reinforce learning undertaken at school and provide opportunities for pupils to apply their skills. Expectations regarding Home Learning will change as the child progresses through school.

Routines

A whole school routine is set at the beginning of the year, communicated to parents via curriculum newsletter and adhered to by all year groups.

Home Learning will be set each Thursday on Google Classroom.

Return day is the following Tuesday, with weekly spelling practice on a named day.(speed spell)

Home Learning tasks are sent to the Deputy head who will assign the tasks to each class.

Information on Google classroom will explain clearly the expectations on when and how to return completed tasks.

Home Learning is written 'to the adult' in years N, R, 1, 2, and 3.

Home Learning is written 'to the child' in years 4, 5 and 6.

Learning set will be accessible for all pupils with a challenge given for pupils wishing to extend their learning.

No Home Learning is set the week before half term or the last week of term.

No detentions are given for non-completion of Home Learning, with the exception of Year 6.

Staff will respond weekly to Home Learning via the Google Classroom marking section. Comments will include praise for work well done, and when deemed necessary, steps needed to make improvements.

Independent research is encouraged and rewarded.

SEND

Children may receive alternative Home Learning from our SEND team. This will be set, in accordance with our policy, on a Thursday via Google Classroom.

Home Learning Club

There is support in place for pupils who find it difficult to complete Home Learning at home. Pupils may be invited to attend a Home Learning club which is held after school on a Thursday. The club is staffed and provides a quiet place to work with access to IT.

Monitoring

SLT will monitor the Home Learning sent each week. SLT time is also planned at regular intervals to monitor whole school Home Learning and marking with feedback given to staff.

Time

The time spent by each child on Home Learning will vary according to age, motivation and ability. It is acknowledged that each child is different with regards to engagement, work rate and ability to concentrate. A Home Learning recommended time grid is produced for parents information – see below.

Parental Support

We believe that at an early age the value of Home Learning can be greatly enhanced by the attitude and commitment of parents. Parental support is essential and thus Home Learning is included in the Home /School partnership agreement, signed by all families on admission to school.

We ask families to promote an attitude of positive encouragement towards Home Learning.

We advise that a regular time is set aside at home and a quiet place to work provided.

Laptops can be provided by the school for vulnerable families.

Parents can help their children in a number of ways by:

- taking an interest in the Home Learning set
- ensuring child can logon to any websites required, e.g. Mathletics
- praising the child for attempting/completing the home learning
- checking spellings in written work
- testing what needs to be learnt, e.g. tables, spellings
- listening to the child read and responding to the content of the book
- visiting the local library/museum
- providing a suitable quiet place for Home Learning
- encouraging the child to complete Home Learning in time given and to return it on due date
- revising previous spellings and tables
- encouraging and supporting independent research

Conclusion

We believe that providing Home Learning focused on basic skills can inform parents of the academic expectations in each year group. Regular tasks set as Home Learning allows the child time to practice and consolidate the skills needed in the classroom.

Home learning - from January 2022

Nursery	Library weekly Parents advised of learning undertaken in school and activities that can be undertaken at home. Parents encouraged to upload pictures to Google Classroom.
Reception	Reading books changed twice weekly Books to share - weekly Google Classroom used to set optional tasks and challenges. Uploads shared weekly. (Child receives a sticker) From Summer Term –weekly maths activities/games
Year 1	Reading books changed weekly Optional tasks for maths and English and 'talk about' activities set
Year 2	Reading books changed weekly Spellings set weekly One task to be returned is set weekly. Alternate weeks for maths and English From Summer Term -weekly maths and English tasks set to be returned
Year 3,4,5,6	Reading books changed weekly Spellings set weekly One maths and one English task set which is to be returned weekly.

Home Learning – recommended times

Nursery	Share a book every day- 10mins
Rec	Share a book every day -15mins Play a game-10mins
Year 1	Read a book every day –15mins Talk about/optional tasks –15mins
Year 2	Read a book every day –15mins Learn spellings every day –10mins Set task (maths or English) –15mins
Year 3	Read a book every day –15mins Learn spellings every day-15mins Practice times tables every day –10mins Weekly set task maths-15mins Weekly set task English –15mins
Year 4,5,6	Read a book every day –15mins Learn spellings every day –15mins Practice times tables every day –15mins Weekly set task maths –30mins Weekly set task English –30mins