

REVIEW DATE: March 2027

Abbot's Hall Primary School



Home Learning Policy

March 2025

Be the best that you can be.

Introduction

Home learning is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their understanding and achievements in response to guidance from the school. Home learning encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's work in school. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with home learning.

Rationale for Home Learning

Home learning, sometimes also known as 'homework', is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that parents are the first educators of their children and that mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school enriches the child's experiences and develops a positive attitude towards learning. Indeed, we see home learning as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents.

One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that home learning is one way in which children can acquire and develop the skills of an independent learner and home learning therefore plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment.

We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While home learning is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of home learning are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To enrich all aspects of the curriculum;
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

Types of Home Learning

We set a variety of home learning activities across the school. In the Foundation Stage, we send reading books and maths games home for children to share with an adult. Any shared reading or other home learning should be recorded in a child's Yellow Log, which should be signed by a parent or carer each week. Children will also be provided with a phonics support pack, which they can keep at home to help practise phonics skills as often as possible.

In Key Stages 1 and 2, children are also expected to share a reading book at least 4 times a week with an adult at home regularly and for this to be recorded in their Yellow Log (Y1 - Y4) or Homework Diary (Y5 and Y6). Books may be sent home from school as part of our school reading schemes, or may be books children have selected from those they have at home in the case of Y5 and Y6. In addition, children have weekly spellings and should be practising times tables on a regular basis.

Children in Y1 – Y6 are also provided with a Home Learning Grid giving a range of home learning activities from across the curriculum linked to their topic learning in school. All children are expected to hand in **one task per week of their choice** from the grid to their class teacher to be marked and returned to them. In Y1 and Y2, grids are provided at the **start of each half term** and Y3 – Y6, grids are provided at the **start of each term**.

Amount of Home Learning

In Foundation Stage, we expect children to spend approximately 15 minutes a day completing a form of home learning, whilst we expect children in Y1 – Y4 to spend approximately one and a half hours per week on home learning. Children in Y5 and Y6 are expected to spend 2 – 2.5 hours per week.

We give all the children in school a reading log or homework diary where their parents, the teacher or Teaching Assistant (TA) can record reading and other home learning activities and where parents and teachers make any relevant comments.

Expectations on Completing Home Learning

The expectation is for all pupils to complete the home learning set for them and hand it in on time. A weekly home learning club is available on Tuesday lunchtimes for pupils to get support with their home learning in school, if necessary. Pupils in Y5 and Y6 who do not hand their home learning in on time will receive a lunchtime detention. If a pupil receives three lunch time detentions, their parents will be informed by the class teacher.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

We set home learning for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special educational needs, we adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

The Role of Parents

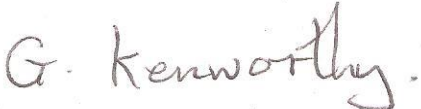
Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and home learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

If parents have any problems or questions about home learning they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the Phase Leader.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and monitor the school home learning policy. This is overseen by the Curriculum Committee.

Signed:  Headteacher

Signed:  Chair of Governors

Date: **March 2025**