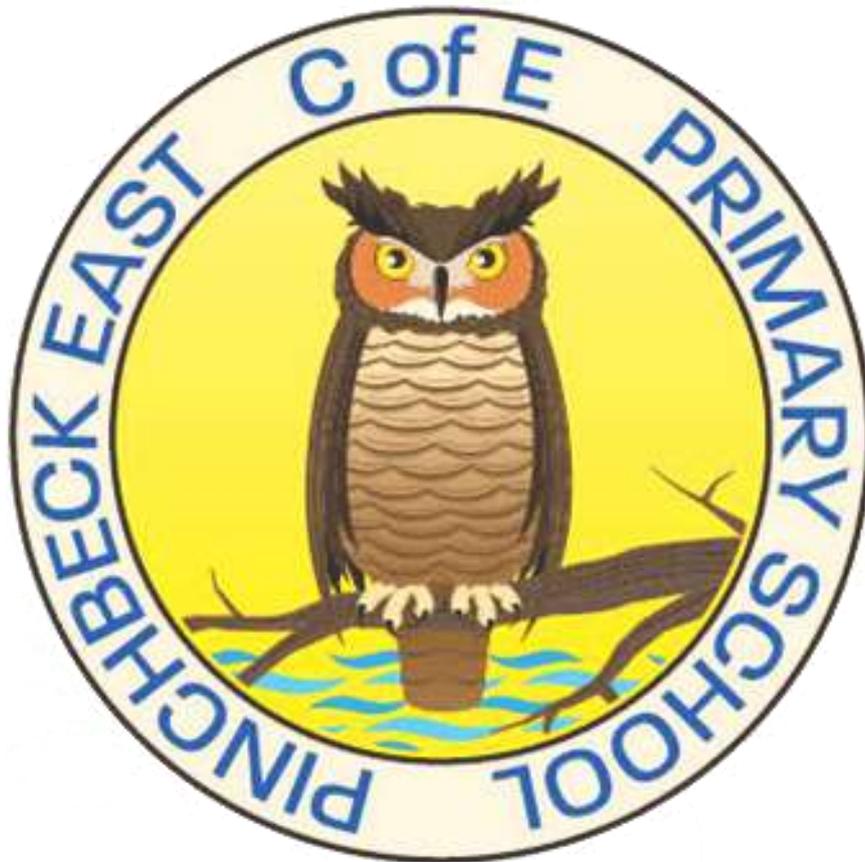


Pinchbeck East C of E Primary School



Home learning Policy 2019-2020

Introduction

At our school we recognise the vital role parents and carers play in the education of their children. We strongly believe in the value of home-school partnership, of which our home learning policy is an important element.

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- To use home learning as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Provide opportunities for parents/carers, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to pupils' learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents/carers to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce learning covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in mathematics and English.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.
- Ensure that parents/carers are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To maintain high expectations of presentation as expected in day to day school learning.

The nature of home learning

The nature of home learning will change as pupils get older. For pupils in EYFS and Key Stage 1, developing a partnership with parents and carers, and involving them actively in children's learning is a key objective. All year groups follow a weekly schedule for home learning; this is outlined in class newsletters, which all parents/carers receive at the beginning of each new term. Short activities of different kinds - reading together, learning spellings and number facts - provide a very important opportunity for young pupils to talk about what they are learning to an adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment. As pupils get older, home learning provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning, which they will need to continue in their lifelong learning and this should increasingly become its main purpose. It is important that pupils should gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time, which may not be long, to study on their own. By the time pupils reach Year 6, their home learning programme will cover a wide range of tasks and curriculum content, with a regular weekly schedule. This approach will benefit their learning and also ensure that, in relation to home learning as much as to other aspects, the Year 6 transition to Year 7/secondary school is as smooth as possible.

Home learning will be differentiated to take account of individual pupils needs and may include:

Home Reading

The importance of reading at home cannot be over-emphasised and we hope that pupils will read for pleasure in their own time. Pupils will be provided with a range of school reading books (fiction and non-fiction), which can be taken home to read with a parent/carer or other adult. Children are also encouraged to read their own reading books to maintain the enthusiasm and enjoyment of reading. A reading diary is provided, which parents must sign and add comments about the reading each time they have listened to their child read. Pupils in Key Stage 1 will be expected to read three times weekly for 10 minute sessions and hopefully the time spent reading will increase as the children progress through the school. Pupils in Key Stage 2 will be expected to read three times a week for 20 minutes. We cannot stress the importance of reading, to develop skills which enable children to become fluent and passionate readers forever! We will provide the opportunity

for children to read in school if they are unable to complete the expectation of reading time at home.

Spellings

Spellings will be given weekly for the children to learn. These will be taken from the new national curriculum and assessed every week. The expectation is that the children will apply the learned patterns of spellings in their day to day writing.

Mathematics

In Key Stage 1, pupils will be given Mathematics home learning to consolidate their understanding of number facts, including multiplication tables recall. In Key Stage 2 home learning will be provided for pupils to consolidate or revise particular mathematical skills which will have been covered in recent lessons. **My Maths is recommended. If a child does not have access to technology to complete the My Maths online the teachers will provide a paper copy weekly.**

English

In Key Stage 1, children will have spelling, reading and other English activities on a weekly basis.

In Key Stage 2, pupils will be given English home learning in addition to spellings and reading. This may include consolidation of vocabulary, punctuation and grammar skills, development of reading comprehension and small writing tasks related to current English learning.

Other home learning activities may include:

- Handwriting Practice
- Research
- Puzzles/games
- Learning songs or scripts for plays
- Investigations

Time to be spent on home learning

There are minimum expectations of time to be spent on home learning, but as a school, we promote a love of learning, both in school and at home, and consistently high standards, so appreciate it when children give time and effort to all that they do.

Implementation

Foundation Stage

In EYFS, the pupils take home reading books on a regular basis to read with parents/carers to reinforce the key words from the scheme presently being covered. Word lists and 'sounds' may also be sent home. Initially, the children take home letter formation activities in term 1, progressing to weekly spellings in term 6, in order to prepare for Key Stage 1 home learning. In addition to English, the children have maths home learning to ensure that the mathematical understanding, skills and are reinforced at home. Also, the children have topical challenges, such as making bird feeders at home, that the parents then post onto Tapestry. The class teachers then share the home learning with the children in class.

Year One and Year Two

- Pupils take home a reading book, which is changed regularly. Pupils are encouraged to read little and often, (i.e. up to 10 minutes) a minimum of three times per week. A reading diary is also sent home to record any successes, concerns and as evidence of reading at home.
- A weekly spelling list, appropriate to ability, is also sent home to learn.
- During the year, pupils will be asked to think about certain aspects of their subject based curriculum learning. In addition they may be asked to bring objects/photographs/information from home to support their learning in school.

- In Year 2 the pupils will be given maths and English home learning in addition to their weekly spellings.
- Pupils are also encouraged to practise number bonds (to 10, 20, 100 and beyond) and to learn the appropriate multiplication tables: 2x, 5x, 10x, 3x

Year Three and Year Four

- Reading 3 times weekly
- There will be spellings each week with an assessment at the end of each week.
- Children are now expected to know their multiplication tables from 0-12 by the end of Year 4, when they take part in a Government on line assessment.
- Home learning will be set each week, which may consist of English, Maths and possibly tasks associated with the subject based curriculum, which will help to consolidate classroom based learning.

Year Five and Year Six

- English and mathematics home learning weekly.
- Children will also receive weekly spelling lists with an assessment at the end of each week.
- Reading 3 times weekly
- In addition to this pupils may be set science or subject based curriculum learning .These tasks may reinforce new concepts, consolidate skills or require information research beyond the classroom.
- In Year 6 there will also be revision for the end of year tests.

Communication to Parents and Carers

Parents/carers will be informed of ways in which they can support and assist their children at home in the 'Welcome' pack given to all parents of Reception pupils. This will include curriculum meetings as part of the induction process to suggest ways that parents can support reading at home.

To be reviewed September 2020

Signed Chair of Governors