

# PARLEY FIRST SCHOOL



## HOME-LEARNING POLICY

At Parley First School we believe that the purpose of home-learning is to:

- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding
- Develop an effective partnership between home and school
- Reaffirm the importance of education through the support and approval of parents
- Extend learning opportunities through exploration of a wide range of resources
- Encourage children's growing independence and self discipline

### **Aims**

This policy aims to ensure that there is a consistent yet developmental approach to homework throughout the school. As children get older the purpose of homework will change. Initially short activities of various kinds will provide important opportunities for parents to be involved and to learn about their children's education. Learning experiences can be shared and discussed and support provided when necessary. Children will develop the habit of allocating regular time to study and to practise key skills. During Key Stage 2 homework will provide opportunities to develop the skills of independent learning.

### **Literacy**

Sharing books and regular practice in reading is vital in the early years. Reading experience should involve a wide range of texts for a variety of purposes, including signs, reference books, computer texts, lists, instructions etc. as well as a school reading book.

### **Numeracy**

Number games for young children provide them with important and purposeful activities for mental maths. As they develop they will need to learn essential number facts to help them recall/increase mental calculations more quickly. Opportunities to use mental strategies can be readily found at home. A guide for parents, which includes year group numeracy objectives, is sent home each Autumn. This will help to focus on appropriate areas of maths.

### **ICT**

There will be opportunities for children to use computers if they have them as part of homework especially for topic research work. Support and opportunities at home to develop ICT skills will greatly benefit children and prepare them for their future in an advanced technological society. Targetted opportunities will be suggested using the school's subscription to Espresso Home Learning.

### **Role of parents**

- To engender a positive attitude and love of learning
- Provide a suitable place for children to concentrate and learn
- Encourage and support children as necessary
- Discuss and praise their work
- Confirm the value of homework and its importance in children's achievements

## Timetable

The time allocated for each year group may vary and should be seen **as a guide only**. These are the kinds of activities that may be appropriate to the needs of the children

Year Group	Activities	Approx. Time
R	Talk about child's day Sharing Books Reading Activities Number Activities Topic research Maths Games	5-10 mins per day
Year 1	Reading/sharing books Talk about your child's day Reading Activities Number Activities Topic research	5-10 mins per day
Year 2	Reading practice/sharing books Number Activities Spelling Activities Topic research	10-15 mins per day
Year 3	Reading / Sharing books Language activities Table facts Number Activities Topic research	15-20 mins per day
Year 4	Reading /Sharing books/Book reviews Language Activities Table facts Topic research Number Activities	20 mins per day

## Musical instruments

Children opting to play musical instruments will be expected to practice at home and may need support and encouragement especially in the initial stages.

## Routines

A regular routine for homework can be helpful and each year group will plan and set routines at the beginning of each school year or term as appropriate. Our Parley School Diaries provide opportunities for children to focus on specific activities linked to weekly plans, at home with some support. Parents will also be informed of curriculum details through base letters and parent consultations.

## SEN

Children with particular needs will be set tasks broadly in line with others in their class but tasks may be differentiated in a number of ways including quantity, amount of support required and demand. The tasks provided will be achievable and aimed to increase confidence and self esteem through success.

## MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will need to be reviewed regularly to ensure that the home-learning being set is manageable. Parents will be consulted about Home Learning annually as part of the parental questionnaire.

Governors will need to satisfy themselves that the policy is effective using the following criteria:

- Is home-learning being set for children?
- Is it sufficient / too much?
- Do parents approve of and support the kind of activities being set?
- Are children learning and developing skills and knowledge?