

GREAT CHART PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME LEARNING POLICY

September 2018



Our vision is to create a school community where children participate, succeed and are proud of their achievements. We strive to actively promote British values and prepare our children to become role models, thus preparing them for life in modern Britain. It is our belief that children come to Great Chart Primary School to be happy, successful and to be the best they can be. Our core values are: Respect, Aspiration, Responsibility, Resilience, Independence and Kindness

Rationale

Home learning activities are school related activities undertaken at home. Home learning helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning and fostering good lifelong learning and study habits. It provides an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. For Home learning to be effective, the activities must be meaningful, relevant and related to work being studied in the classroom.

Guidelines

Home learning is an opportunity to develop a partnership with the school by establishing regular home learning patterns from early primary school. It also enables parents to actively participate as partners with their children in the education process. By completing home learning activities regularly, students are assisted to develop organisational and time management skills. It also promotes self discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and a personal responsibility for learning.

Parents and students are advised of Home Learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and in termly Year Group Letters to parents. All Key Stage 2 students use Home learning diaries in which Home Learning Tasks are recorded and the completion date stated. Pupils from Year 1 – 6 are also provided with a Home Learning Book in which to complete tasks. These books will be marked by the teacher and on occasion, peer marked.

It is expected that students complete the home learning requirements as indicated by their classroom teacher. Whilst it is important that children take increasing responsibility for completing their own work as they move through Key Stage 2, Great Chart encourages parents to sign the Homework Diaries as the children complete tasks. Parents will be informed if children repeatedly do not complete Home Learning Tasks.

How Teachers can help the pupils in their class

There are a number of ways in which teachers can support their pupils when setting Home Learning tasks. These include:

- setting regular home learning to help students establish a home study routine
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work that are appropriate to the students' learning needs
- giving students enough time to complete home learning, taking into account, home obligations and extra-curricular activities
- assessing Home learning and providing practical feedback and support
- helping students develop the organisational and time management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning
- ensuring that parents and caregivers are aware of the School's home learning policy
- developing strategies to support parents to become active partners in Home learning

How Parents and caregivers can help their children to complete Home Learning Activities

There are a number of ways in which teachers can support their pupils when setting Home Learning tasks. These include:

- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- attending school events, displays or productions in which their children are involved
- encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete home learning
- setting an example by reading themselves
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with home learning

- helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing home learning, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities
- checking whether home learning for upper primary has been set and ensuring they keep a home learning diary
- reading texts set by teachers. Discussing their child's response to the texts and asking to see work they complete in relation to these texts
- discussing home learning in their first language, where English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to their previous experiences

Home Learning Activities

Home Learning Activities will take a range of forms including:

- reading on a regular basis
- reinforcing acquired skills and knowledge, e.g. spelling words
- working on Art / DT or Topic based projects
- gathering information or materials to extend their class work
- investigating, exploring and making observations
- completing unfinished work
- Curriculum guarantee (6 tasks over the year linked to 6 Ways to Well Being)

Organisation of Home learning across EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

EYFS

- Daily Reading Practice and Key Word Practice
- Weekly activity sheet for Home Learning.
- Other activities are also recorded in the child's Home/School Link book

Year 1

- Daily Reading Practice
- Termly spelling list to practise regularly
- Weekly Maths/ English Activity

Year 2

- Daily Reading Practice
- Termly spelling list to practise regularly
- Weekly Tables
- Weekly Maths/ English Activity
- Longer Home Learning Activity to be completed during the holidays

Year 3

- Guided reading home learning
- Weekly Spellings
- Weekly Tables
- Weekly English/ Maths or Topic Activity

Year 4

- Guided reading home learning
- Weekly Spellings
- Weekly Tables
- Weekly English/ Maths or Topic Activity

Year 5

- Guided reading home learning

- Weekly Spellings
- Weekly Tables
- Maths activity
- English, Punctuation & Grammar activity

(Speaking and Listening Projects throughout the year)

Year 6

- Guided reading home learning
- Weekly Spellings
- Maths activity
- English, Punctuation & Grammar activity

(Speaking and Listening Projects throughout the year)

Monitoring of Home Learning Activities

We expect all children to complete their homework. If a pupil has acquired the habit of not completing the set tasks, then it is the responsibility of the class teacher to inform a child's parents/carers. In the first instance, this should be done via the homework book. If the problem persists, then this should be followed up with a conversation between the class teacher and the child's parents/carers.

Non- completion of Home Learning

It is worth noting that when children deliberately do not attempt to do homework (and this does not include when family emergencies occur), children will be required to remain inside during their own time to complete their work. Allowing one child to opt out of doing homework whilst everyone else is expected to complete it causes bad feeling amongst a class and is unfair. We therefore make it very clear that we expect everyone to be treated equally and all children are required to complete homework.

We can provide support, time and space in school for children to complete homework if they are unable to complete these activities at home e.g. difficulty accessing the internet for an online maths activity. We are happy to discuss this provision with you, but this must not be seen as the norm and become routine.

Secondary schools have high expectations in terms of the completion of homework. We are ensuring this work ethic is developed at an early stage helping with their transition to secondary school.