

Longstone Primary



Home Learning Policy

Longstone Primary School – Home Learning Policy

Benefits

At Longstone, we consulted families and staff about home learning and we identified its benefits:

- Encourages families to talk about learning at home
- Helps parents/carers know what their child is learning in school
- Reinforces and consolidates skills learned in school
- Helps build learners' confidence

Making Home Learning Worthwhile

Whilst we recognise the value of home learning as a school community, we also understand that to make the process worthwhile:

Families need

- ✓ Clear instructions on home learning completion
- ✓ Adequate time to complete tasks
- ✓ Activities that are manageable

School staff need

- ✓ Parents/carers to support their children to complete home learning on time
- ✓ Parents/carers to let staff know if there is an issue with home learning

Communication to Families about Home Learning

Each class teacher is responsible for letting parents know the format and timescale of their class's home learning. This is usually shared via Microsoft Teams.

Any occasional changes to home learning – such as an extra task or another area of the curriculum replacing Reading, Writing or Maths – will be communicated to families by class teachers, usually via Teams.

Also, each term (in September, January and April), class teachers will send home a Curriculum Planners for Families which has lots of information about what the class will be learning as well as tips for parents to support at home.

Format of Home Learning

Each week, pupils in P2 – P7 receive home learning activities in:

- Maths
- Spelling
- Reading

Once they have settled in to P1, and usually after the October break, pupils in P1 will have home learning activities in:

- Reading/Phonics
- Maths

Types of Home Learning Activities

Home Learning should always be consolidation, revision or practice of skills already learned in school. Classroom teachers will choose appropriate activities for their class such as a game, writing/drawing task or a discussion activity

Occasionally, a research or creative task may be set for home learning. Teachers may give learners activities on a home learning wall to choose from or they may set a specific activity.

Sumdog

All pupils from P1-P7 have a Sumdog password and log in. Sumdog is a Maths website that the school subscribes to. P1 usually do not start using Sumdog until the summer term.

Sumdog lets staff set Numeracy questions to the level of the children in their class. When children play the games on Sumdog, it adapts to their level. Practice on Sumdog may be given for Home Learning. It is a very good resource for developing the children's speed and recall of Numeracy (number) and Maths facts.

Time Spent on Home Learning

We would not expect home learning to take more than:

P1 - around 15 minutes per night

P2-3 - around 20 minutes per night

P4-7 - around 30 minutes

Although these are daily limits, most timescales for home learning will be flexible to enable families to fit activities around family life.

Supporting Families

We know that the circumstances of each family are different and we take a supportive approach to pupils having difficulty with the completion of home learning. When this happens, we work with families to see how we can help.

We can support families in several ways, including:

- ✓ Homework clubs
- ✓ Help with resources/materials
- ✓ Help in school to complete tasks
- ✓ Adapting home learning activities
- ✓ Translation services

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher, Mrs Masson (P1-3) or Mrs Pearston (P4-7) if you need to talk about your child's home learning.

