



Home Learning Policy

Reviewed January 2025

Introduction

This policy relates to the home learning that takes place regularly, and does not cover remote learning during exceptional times, eg during Covid lockdowns. For details of our provision and expectations during periods of remote learning, please see our Remote Learning Policy.

Purpose of Home Learning

At different times, Home Learning is designed to:

- Develop effective partnerships in children's learning between home and school
- Take learning into the home to develop families' knowledge and understanding of what children are learning at school
(Note: at the start of each term, parents and carers receive an outline of the term's learning, including information about topics and themes to be covered. Additionally, each week parents will receive a 'What we are doing in class' letter outlining what the children will be learning for the week ahead)
- Reinforce learning that has taken place at school
- Develop children's love of and engagement in learning
- Increase children's self-discipline and independence
- Prepare children for the demands of homework at secondary school

Principles behind Home Learning

At Walnut Tree Walk Primary, the provision of Home Learning tasks should:

- Be relevant to learning that takes place in school
- Enthuse and motivate children to want to learn
- Provide children with appropriate challenge
- Not provide an obstacle to family life or prevent children taking part in other activities
- Be manageable for teachers, without significantly affecting the time and energy they devote to the core activities of planning and assessment for the classroom

Provision

The nature of Home Learning will change as children go through school, while always adhering to the purpose and principles outlined above.

Early Years Foundation Stage and Years 1, 2 and 3

Reading is the key to children being able to learn in any area. Therefore, home learning in the Early Years and Key Stage One should focus on developing children's enthusiasm for books. We encourage dialogue between parents and carers and the school, and a Reading Record Book is provided as a way of communicating between home and school about the child's reading in Reception and Year 1.

Years 4, 5 and 6

Year 4, 5 and 6 children will be set homework through their Google Classroom accounts, mainly focusing on maths or spelling, punctuation and grammar. This may sometimes include work using the IXL website which the school subscribes to, or other online learning platforms, eg Times Table Rockstars.

Year 4 and 5 will be set two pieces of work per week: one piece of English and one piece of Maths. Year 6 will be set three pieces of work per week which are a mixture of English and Maths.

Work will be set on a set day each week, with the expectation that this is completed by the following week. This aims to allow flexibility as to when the homework is completed as we are aware that each individual child and family have different out of school commitments and schedules.

Access to devices

Children who do not have access to a computer device at home will be offered a laptop, Chrome Book or tablet. The school also can provide internet data bundles in cases where this is a barrier.

Policy Review

This Home Learning Policy will be reviewed every two years by the staff and governors at Walnut Tree Walk.

Date of Policy: January 2025

Review Date: January 2027