



Supporting Learning at Home

Policy Number : POL-TAL- 000

Issue : 2

Status : Approved

| APPROVED | Date | Name | Signature |
|----------------|----------|-----------|------------------|
| School | Feb 2025 | A Gadsby | <i>A Gadsby</i> |
| Governing Body | Feb 2025 | D Kingdon | <i>D Kingdon</i> |

CHANGE HISTORY

| Issue Number | Issued On | Next Review Due | List of Changes |
|--------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Feb 2022 | Feb 2025 | New policy |
| 2 | Feb 2025 | Feb 2028 | |
| 3 | | | |
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Introduction

We define home learning as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At Kettlefields, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement. Although home learning is non statutory in primary school, we see it as a useful tool to increase pupil progress and work in partnership with parents.

Aims

Why give home learning?

- It can inform parents about work going on in class;
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It takes advantage of the home environment and resources and the chance for some 1:1 adult time;
- It can be a great source for gathering topic information to share with all the children;
- It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables, doubling facts, addition sums, spellings, handwriting, grammar and other key facts;
- It helps to foster good habits of organization and self- discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, Kettlefields is not a school at which home learning dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that home learning should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning. We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice.

We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves; children are not punished if they fail to complete the work. However discreet homework registers are kept and if a child consistently fails to complete and return tasks, this is discussed with the child and their parents.

Our routines and expectations

Across the school, we have the following expectations:

- Children read regularly at home (daily is preferred)
- Children practice spellings / phonics each week
- Children access Doodle learning to practice key maths and English skills

Children will be provided with log in details for:

- Doodle Learning
- Google Classroom

These are all tools that parents can use at home to support home learning.

EYFS/ Key Stage 1

Children may be given activities linked to their learning in phonics, maths and English. This may be targeted at a particular child or group of children or the whole class. Children are encouraged to read regularly at home and learn key spellings. Children may also be given projects linked to topics they are covering.

Key Stage 2

Pupils are given one piece of homework to complete each week, which could be English, Maths or a combination of the two. This may consist of a worksheet, game, puzzle or set via the Doodle Learning platform. In addition, children may be set a more project based home learning task related to science or humanities learning which will be more cross curricular. Children may be required to research a topic and present their findings. These tasks are quite open and allow children to follow their interests.

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil or black/blue pen.

As far as possible, homework will be related to class topics. This is important as it helps parents to know more about what is going on in class and to support enthusiasm for learning.

Increasingly teachers are using technology for homework. Research shows use of technology to be more effective at impacting pupil progress. Research also shows quality of home learning is more important than the quantity.

In the few weeks prior to SAT tests, the Year 6 children will be given additional revision work. It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks. The exception will be where the parent and teacher agree extra work would be beneficial.

Teachers may send specific tasks home to support the learning of the children they support. Again, this will be discussed with parents.

Home learning will be reviewed by the class teacher. It may be peer or self –marked.

If you take holiday during term-time, something we actively discourage, parents may not request work from the teacher. We suggest that parents organize a holiday diary.

What to do if you have concerns:

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently please talk with your child's teacher in the first instance. If you still have concerns, please talk with Mrs Gadsby, the Headteacher.