



TEMPLENEWSAM HALTON PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY FOR HOME LEARNING

Home learning refers to any learning or activities which children are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. Expectations for learning at home should not be such that it prevents children from participating in extra curricular activities such as sport, music, dance and drama which are, in themselves, an enrichment and extension of the children's learning in school.

In the Early Years and Key Stage 1 the key purpose of learning at home is to develop a partnership with parents and carers and involve them actively in children's learning. For older children the main purpose of extending learning into the home is to provide opportunities for them to develop the skills of independent learning and self-discipline. In all year groups home learning is designed to reinforce or build on learning in school.

To help to develop social as well as academic skills, the type of learning set will be varied, balanced and enjoyable and will not be restricted to tasks that include pencil and paper e.g. 'Talk Learning' reading and research activities, building models.

TIME ALLOCATION

Following DfE guidance we recommend:

Early Years and Key Stage 1	1 hour per week. Little and often with much learning being focused around other activities, e.g. counting cars at the traffic lights, baking and talking about the world around them.	Reading, spelling counting activities and games with some written activities in Years One and more in Year Two, e.g. Learning logs and activities for the holidays.
Years 3 and 4	1 to 2 hours per week	English and math activities to include times tables and spellings with additional games and activities over holidays.
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day	Literacy and Numeracy activities / games and other tasks eg. finding out information, reading in preparation for lessons, preparing oral presentations, written assignments.
Increasingly home learning is being provided on the internet e.g. Mathletics and Reading Eggs and on the school learning platform.		
All children are expected to read at least three times a week		

The class teacher will ensure that homework is manageable and will set regular patterns of homework.



THE ROLE OF THE PARENT / CARER

We ask that parents make it clear that they value their learning and support the school in explaining how it can help them to make progress. Parents are also asked to provide a reasonably quiet, suitable place where effective learning can take place, and to give children quality time and encouragement.

We advise that children have the opportunity to enjoy at least one family activity per week eg. a number or language game or visit out which does not involve the use of electronic devices e.g. parents on their mobiles or children on their tablets.

HOME / SCHOOL FEEDBACK

Feedback between home and school will be achieved through the use of reading diaries, Home / Schoolbooks and through marking and feedback. Parents are encouraged to send information back into school about their child's attitude, success or difficulties with learning that has been set.

The school undertakes to provide support for parents with regard to ideas and instructions on how they can support their child's learning at home e.g. at parents evening, leaflets, surgery sessions and on the Learning Platform. School also directs parents to useful websites to support learning at home.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The policy will be reviewed on a two year basis with interim reviews and modification as the need arises in order to ensure that arrangements are manageable for everyone.

Feedback from parents via diaries and activity sheets will help to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy. Parents are encouraged to discuss any difficulties that they or their children experience with home learning and staff are happy to support.

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