



FOUNTAINS EARTH PRIMARY SCHOOL **HOME LEARNING GUIDELINES**

Home Learning covers any activity which children are asked to do outside lesson time, either independently or with parents.

Its aim is to support the work done in school, reinforcing or extending learning. Each term the class newsletter will keep parents/carers informed of anything they could be doing with their children at home, or whilst in the locality to support the work being done in class.

Home Learning also offers parents/carers a valuable opportunity to share in what their children are doing at school and provide encouragement and support. Whilst every child and home situation differs, some of the best work results from working alongside adults in a social setting, such as at the kitchen table. Although you may wish to set a time for Home Learning, wherever possible, Home Learning should not be viewed as a chore, to get finished before tea or play! Home Learning will include the development of maths and English but may also include creative, extended research, or even practical tasks.

Our approach to Home Learning varies according to the age and needs of the child, as well as the curriculum content being studied.

Foundation Stage (Reception) children are encouraged to share books with parents. Reading books together should always be an enjoyable experience and a special time for children and parents alike. Children will also have key maths facts to practise and phonics/spellings to work on. The class newsletters will detail other opportunities for follow up work at home.

Year 1 and Year 2 Home Learning will include reading for at least 10 - 15 minutes every night, weekly spellings to learn and key facts in numeracy (KIRFS) including learning their times tables. Children may also be asked to find out about something relating to work done in class.

Year 3 and Year 4 Children will be given weekly spellings to learn at home which will be tested. Children should also read for 15 - 20 minutes every night. Children will be given times tables and number facts (KIRFS) to learn weekly and these will be tested with the results recorded in a homework book. A piece of maths written homework will also be set. Children will also be encouraged to research new topics and will be given the opportunity to share their findings with in class.

In Years 5 and 6 children should be encouraged to develop a more regular Home Learning routine. Year 5 tasks will consist of a weekly spelling list and times tables practise together with continued reading. Weekly maths tasks will be set which will include both learning tables and key instant recall facts (KIRFS). These will be tested and returned in homework books. In addition children may be given research pieces based on science or topic work.

Year 6 will do all that year 5 do and in addition to this they will be given at least 1 written task per week. After Christmas, year 6 pupils should engage in approximately 15 minutes revision each day which will be set. This may be internet based.

Feedback on Home Learning will be given according to the task, through:

- discussion in the classroom setting
- pupils reviewing their own work
- pupils following up their Home Learning in class
- marking and comments from the teacher
- tests e.g. tables and spellings

Home Learning should not be viewed as optional - it is a vital part of education.

If your child has any problems with their Home Learning then please talk to the class teacher who will work with you to ensure that the learning given is manageable. Overall, tasks should be challenging, stimulating and of benefit to your child's education. When successfully achieved, Home Learning will encourage a positive attitude to learning and prepare children well for the future.

Reviewed January 2016
To be reconsidered December 2017