

RIVINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Home Learning Policy (Formerly Homework Policy)



*We invite you to come on an exciting learning journey.
Discover, create, invent, explore. Join the adventure*

Rewritten 2014

Rivington Primary School Learning at Home Policy **(Replaces the existing Homework Policy.)**

At Rivington Primary we believe our children are always learning. Learning at home is an extension of the learning done in school together with opportunities to develop and share interests and transfer skills to other contexts.

It is important for children to realise that learning takes place wherever they are. We try to help our children make links between the things they learn inside and outside of school and give them opportunities to apply their skills to real life situations giving their learning meaning and purpose.

We recognize the important role of families in the education of children. We believe a strong partnership between home and school provides the best learning opportunities for our children. Children who get the chance to share their learning at home through discussion and shared activities are more able to succeed.

Why are children given tasks to complete from school?

Children are given regular tasks to complete from school in order:-

Maintain interest and enthusiasm

To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school

To practise skills taught in class

To extend their skills by applying them to other context

To allow the children to pursue interests over a sustained period of time.

To help achieve personal targets

To encourage good work habits

To develop independence and responsibility

To help prepare older children for secondary transfer

What sort of activities will my child bring home?

- Books to share
- Things to talk about
- Real life opportunities e.g. shopping, telling the time
- Games to play
- Spelling activities
- Number facts to learn
- Finding out activities
- Independent research
- Pre learning tasks

How Can I help my child?

Talk to your child about the things that have happened in school

Help your child to decide on a suitable time to for learning activities and remove distractions such as the T. V., toys, electronic games

Help your child to decide how to work best. Does the activity require a table, a quiet place?

Talk to your child about the work, praise and offer help where appropriate

What if my child has problems or finds the activity too difficult?

If your child is struggling with an activity reassure him/her. Don't let them spend too long struggling on any piece of homework. Just let the class teacher know. Don't worry!

If your child always seems to struggle and/or you are concerned make an appointment to discuss it with the teacher.

What if a child does not complete does not complete home learning tasks?

If your child finds the work difficult (see above).

It is important that all children are given the opportunity to continue their learning at home. If they do not complete the compulsory weekly tasks then school will make alternative arrangements. This may mean that children join lunchtime study clubs or miss other activities.

How do I find out if my child has home learning tasks to complete?

In the early years the class teacher will speak to you about the home learning tasks and as the children go through Key Stage 1 the teachers will send out instructions about the expected tasks. As children progress to upper Key Stage 2 part of their learning is to take more responsibility for communicating this information themselves, if however, you feel your child is not giving you this information please speak to the class teacher and information can be given directly to you. Please see the grid below for basic expectations.

	<i>Communication with Parents</i>	<i>Usual tasks sent home.</i>
NURSERY	Weekly Home Link Sheet (from October half term to May holiday) Half termly newsletter provides details of focus topics	A weekly activity for parents and children to complete together e.g. something to collect, look out for or make, a game to play. A library book to share
RECEPTION	Topic lists go out every half term Weekly Home Activity Sheet	Sounds/phonics and letters to practise. Weekly numeracy activity to do together. Book to share.
YEAR1	Topic lists go out every half term Weekly home diary/activity sheet	Sounds/phonics/spellings to practise. Weekly numeracy activity Weekly reading activity.
YEAR 2	Topic lists go out every half term Weekly home learning sheet or letter.	Sounds/phonics/spellings to practise. Weekly numeracy activity Weekly reading activity
YEAR3	Topic lists go out every half term Weekly home learning sheet or letter.	Number facts/spellings to practice Weekly numeracy activity Weekly reading activity
YEAR4	Topic lists go out every half term Home learning books have information sheet in the front.	Numeracy activity Number facts/Spellings to practice Literacy activity Reading
YEAR5	Topic lists go out every half term Children expected to be responsible for their own home learning.	Numeracy activity Number facts/Spellings to practice Literacy activity Reading
YEAR6	Topic lists go out every half term Children expected to be responsible for their own home learning.	Numeracy activity Number facts/Spellings to practice Literacy activity Reading

Children may be given other tasks such as handwriting practice or optional activities based on topic work. They may also be given ‘talk tasks’ where they are asked to discuss something at home to prepare them for writing activities.

As children move up the school (especially in Y6) they are expected to take more responsibility for their learning. There will be more opportunities for optional activities based on the children’s own self-evaluation, extension activities and specific activities to prepare the children for SATs tests. If you have any concerns about this please speak to the class teacher.

How do I help my child with reading?

- Read to your child
- Share stories together
- Listen to your child read
- Talk enthusiastically about books
- Read yourself
- Come and visit our library or the public library together
- Let them read by themselves and then ask them questions about the story.

What do I do if my child stops wanting to read?

- Try to make reading fun! If it becomes a battle try something else.
- Even older children often enjoy being read to and you can then discuss the reading with them
- Try different kinds of books some children prefer non fiction
- Get children to read signs, packets, recipes
- Get them to listen to audio books
- Try I'll read a page and then you can read a page.

It is important to get them to enjoy books and to find reading a pleasurable experience.