

Home Learning Policy

2016/17

Aims of the school

At Mullion Community Primary School we aim to:

- Provide a caring and happy environment in which everyone feels secure to grow and develop to their full potential
- Create an ethos of mutual trust, respect and tolerance where the entire community is valued
- Encourage independent learners who display self-belief and high expectations of themselves
- Develop creative learners who show responsible attitudes

Introduction

At Mullion we see education as a positive partnership between home and school; home learning is a key part of this. It offers children the opportunity to become independent learners and to practise and apply skills learned in the classroom thereby increasing knowledge and understanding. Recent research indicates this practise element is vital. Skills are taught in school and any practise at home will enhance skills and extend confidence. Home learning also offers an important opportunity for parents to work in partnership with school to support their child's learning.

It is important that home learning is seen as an enjoyable complement to what happens at school.

Home learning Review

We reviewed our home learning provision in 2015/6 through consultation with parents, governors, staff and children. Through this process we discovered that there were many common thoughts and opinions regarding homework, which have been taken into consideration when formulating the following aims:

Aims for Home learning

- To secure a secure knowledge of core subject skills in English and maths; spelling, reading, number bonds and times tables
- To create opportunities for children to share the curriculum and their learning with parents and carers at home
- To provide greater opportunities for personalised learning, enabling children to extend themselves and develop skills and knowledge in their own area of interest

Time expectations for homework

This is based on Department for Education guidance. It allows for progression between year groups and an increase in time as children become older and more independent learners. In upper Key Stage 2, home learning will form part of the transition process in order to understand the expectations of Secondary School learning.

We recognise that children and families can often be very busy out of school, so we never set homework to be returned the following day. Children will always be given at least 3 nights to complete their homework.

Progression in activities and time

Year Group	Recommended weekly time for homework	Activities
Early Years Foundation Stage	50 mins	Dependent on child's needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly newsletter with activities to support learning• Reading Books: daily X 10 mins• Phonics practise• Number practise

1	80 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Books: daily X 10 mins • Year 1 Phonics practise • Number bonds and tables
2	80 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading with adult daily X 10 mins • Year 2 weekly spellings • Number bonds and tables
3 & 4	90 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading with adult daily x 10 mins • Year 3&4 weekly spellings • Number bonds and tables
5	2 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading with adult daily x 15 mins • Year 5 weekly spellings • Number bonds and tables • English and maths tasks when appropriate
6	2 1/4 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading with adult daily x 15 mins • Year 6 weekly spellings • Number bonds and tables • English and maths tasks when appropriate

The schools online learning environment is in place to extend learning opportunities to outside of school. Opportunities are made within school if children do not have online access at home. There are a range of websites which provide many games and activities to learn for all abilities. Regular updates are provided in whole school newsletters and on the school website.

How we record home learning

Home learning tasks are detailed within the class page of the website. Children without online facilities will have a copy to put in their home school diary.

Standards

Home learning will be expected to be of a standard at least in line with work in the children's school books. If this isn't the case, the child may be asked to redo the activity, in line with our behaviour policy.

In KS2, when home learning tasks aren't completed, time will be allocated, outside of lesson times, in school to allow for the task to be completed. (in line with the behaviour policy)

Inclusion

It is important that children of all abilities are set appropriate homework. Weekly homework activities may be differentiated according to children's ability or tasks may be set for children to complete at their own level of understanding.

If home circumstances make completing a piece of homework very difficult, then parents or children are encouraged to inform the class teacher and time or resources will then be made available to children in school. If a child cannot access the Internet at home for example, then arrangements will be made for them to use the Internet at school for research or to develop skills.

Home learning and holidays

We will not be setting formal home learning during school holidays, except in Year 6 for transition purposes, but we still encourage children to take part in a range of learning activities such as reading, times tables and research.

No school work will be set if unauthorized holidays are taken during term time.

Monitoring of home learning provision will be undertaken by the Senior Leadership Team on an annual basis. This policy will also be reviewed and developed every two years.