

HAZEL WOOD INFANT SCHOOL

HOME LEARNING POLICY

1. PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

We believe that children learn best if there is a strong partnership between home and school. The amount of time spent on home learning is much less important than the quality of the tasks set and the way they are planned to support learning.

2. AIMS

- To promote parents' involvement in their children's learning
- To improve the quality of learning experience offered to the children
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- To increase children's levels of confidence and self-esteem
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy

3. RESPONSIBILITY ROLES FOR TEACHERS

Teachers will plan appropriate tasks to support learning. They will ensure that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks set. Where appropriate, feedback will be given in order to encourage and develop further learning. Where possible, there will be a regular pattern of home learning.

4. RESPONSIBILITY ROLES FOR PARENTS

When their children join the school, parents are asked to support home learning and to sign a home-school contract. It is beneficial to the child if a quiet and regular time can be set-aside in which to complete home learning tasks. It is important to develop the child's independence within the tasks. If your child has any problems please come in to see their teacher.

The school undertakes to provide learning opportunities for parents in the form of curriculum evenings, where it is possible for parents to gain a better understanding of the teaching methods used.

5. RESPONSIBILITY ROLES FOR CHILDREN

Children are expected to complete tasks to the best of their ability, with encouragement from their parent or carer.

6. GUIDELINES FOR HOME LEARNING

6.1 Reading

Children can choose books to share at home and have guidance to do this from their class teacher. Please spend a few minutes every day reading with your child. This can be you reading to them, them reading to you or a combination of both ways. There is further guidance on how to do this on our website www.hazelwoodinfant.co.uk. Each child has a Reading Diary, could you please sign this to show you have read with your child and add a comment if needed. The staff will do the same, so it is important you send back your child's book bag daily. Don't worry if you don't get a comment from staff every week. All children are heard read individually or as part of a small group at least every week and also by parent helpers. If you have no comment from staff it may be that there is nothing further to add about their next steps at that time. However, if you are ever worried come and see the teacher.

Your child will also bring back books from our school library regularly.

6.2 Education City

At the beginning of each school year, the children are given individual log-on details to a website called 'Education City'. Teachers will set an interactive home learning challenge relating to maths, English or science, once a fortnight

6.3 Learning Logs

In order to generate discussion about learning at home, all children will bring home a weekly learning log that charts the activities that have been undertaken in school throughout the week. A pictorial representation of the activity and a short description should be a prompt for your child to elaborate more on their learning and how they felt about the experiences.

6.4 Topic Related Home Learning

In Years 1 and 2 the children are set informal challenges, which take the form of a simple statement, e.g. "Can you find out about Neil Armstrong?" They are able to direct their own learning and record their findings in any way that they feel is appropriate. The aim of these challenges is to provide a stimulus for children to want to find out more about what they are learning in school and to enjoy self-directed tasks, honing the skills of independent learning.

6.5 My Home Wow! Moment

In Year R we enjoy sharing the children's successes at home, in school. Parents are able to complete the 'Home Wow! Moment' slips and return them to school where the children are able to discuss their achievements and keep a record of them in their Learning Journey books.

7. Inclusion

All tasks and activities are designed to meet the needs of individual children. Should you need any further guidance please see your child's class teacher.

8. MONITORING AND REVIEW

We welcome regular feedback from parents and use this for the monitoring and review of this policy.

Please also see our website for useful links and advice on supporting learning at home.

www.hazelwoodinfant.co.uk

Agreed by the Governing Body Curriculum Committee

09 November 2011