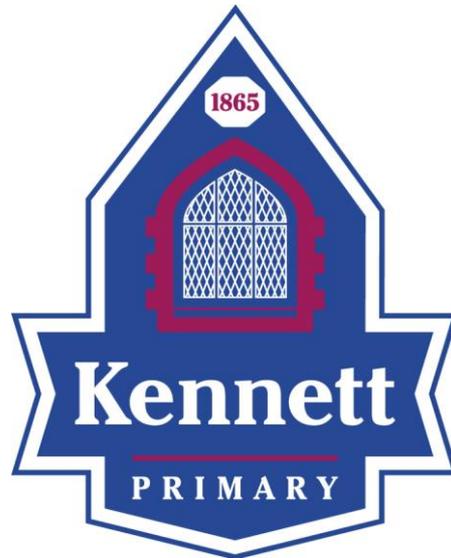




# Kennett Primary School



## Home Learning Policy

<b>Policy owned by Kennett Primary School's Local Governing Body</b>	
<b>Approved on:</b>	September 2013
<b>Date of next review:</b>	Autumn 2016
<b>Chair Signature:</b>	C.Littlewood



At Kennett School we believe that the partnership between home and school is very important for the progress and achievements of the children. This partnership has always been a strong feature of our school community. Homework is a very good way in which parents can become involved in their child's learning and also to help their child to achieve the learning outcomes set for them at school.

## **The Purpose of Home Learning**

Home Learning consolidates and reinforces the skills and understanding learnt in class, particularly in literacy and numeracy. It makes use of the resources for learning that are found in the home and extends school learning, for example, through additional reading. Also it prepares the children for the requirements of secondary school by helping to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.

## **Aims**

Through this policy and the Home Learning that we set we aim to:

- Provide consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure there is progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- Make sure that the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account
- Ensure the parents/carers have a clear understanding of the expected learning outcomes
- Extend and support learning via reinforcement and revision
- Provide opportunities for parents/carers and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs.

## **Approaches**

The parents of Saplings children are given the opportunity to feed back to the class teacher areas where learning has taken place at home.

For children in KS1 the key purpose of Home Learning is to develop a partnership with parents and involve them actively in children's learning. Short activities such as learning spellings and number facts and reading together provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning and practise the key skills. It is the involvement of parents in these joint activities, which can be very brief, that is most valuable in promoting children's learning.

Throughout Key Stage 2 the main purpose of homework is to develop the skills of independent learning through gradually developing longer periods of time to study on their own to enhance future learning.

Literacy:

1. We expect and encourage all our children to either read or listen to a book read to them for between 10 and 20 minutes a day depending on the ability of the child.



We provide book bags and reading record books for every child in KS1 and reading record bookmarks for KS2 in order to support this and to encourage dialogue between home and school.

2. From Year 1 onwards children are given a weekly list of spellings to learn in preparation for a test.
3. Further differentiated homework activities may include, finding out information, reading in preparation for lessons, book reviews, preparing oral presentations such as a talk about a book, as well as written assignments.

**Numeracy:**

- We expect all our children at various levels to be encouraged to count, learn number bonds and tables and to be able to relate these to every day life.
- Further differentiated homework activities may include number games, investigations as well as written assignments.

**Other Subjects:** Home Learning will also be given in other subjects such as research into a given topic or collecting information for science.

The precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of the tasks set and the way they are planned to support learning.

## **Home Learning Guidelines**

**Saplings:**

Home learning in Reception is personalised to the individual child. The children must be reading at home to support their reading development and an enjoyment of books. The staff will change the children's books three times a week, where possible. Personalised comments will be put into the child's reading record about how the parents can support progress with their child's phonic sounds and reading skills.

**Year 1-6:**

Each child is given a Home Learning Log at the start of a half-term. In the log there are a range of tasks, enough for one per week. The tasks are open-ended and have links to the learning the children are doing in the core subjects (Literacy, Numeracy, and Science) as well as their topic lessons. This enables children to be creative about their home learning and tackle the task in a way that suits their learning style.

The children will be asked to return work each Thursday. Children may choose to complete the Home Learning as quickly as they like but at least one task must be complete per week.

- Year 1-6 children will be given weekly spellings to learn.
- Every child will benefit from being heard to read each day.



- Children will be encouraged to do their own work just supported by parents/carers.
- Parents will be welcomed to make comments.
- Reward stamps will be given for each completed piece of work.

## **Special Educational Needs**

The involvement of parents is particularly important for pupils with special needs. The class teacher, in consultation with the SEN Co, sets homework to reinforce 'over-learning' of key skills particularly in relation to reading, writing and Maths.

There may be follow-up work set as homework from catch-up programmes – this will only be undertaken after consultation with parents. We aim to provide plenty of opportunities for the children to succeed and for the learning experiences to be enjoyable.

## **Homework Club**

One lunchtime a week will be set aside for a Home Learning Club from 12:35pm – 1:05pm. This will give an equal opportunity for all children to complete Home Learning tasks, with the assistance of an adult, and also have access to computers. Children not handing in Home Learning will be expected to attend this club.

## **Further aspects of our home/school partnership in relation to homework**

Parents are informed by letter at the beginning of each term about what homework is being set. Parents are aware that it is our responsibility to set the homework and the parents/carers responsibility to see that the children have done it. Teachers, parents/carers and children all know that the consequence of homework tasks not being completed is a missed learning opportunity for the child. The school will not apply any further consequences, such as loss of free time at school to do the homework. All completed Home Learning is rewarded.

Our aim is to help the children to enjoy extending their skills, knowledge and understanding beyond the classroom and so our emphasis is upon praising and rewarding those who make an extra effort with their homework.

## **Role of parents and carers**

We would encourage parents and carers that:

- Children learn best in a peaceful, supportive environment where parents value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their children's learning.
- Home Learning needs to be a positive and enjoyable experience and their child's efforts need to be praised.
- Help can be given by a parent/carer with any basic errors and queries.
- Help can be given by a parent/carer by a friendly test
- The use of libraries, galleries and other places of interest can be made.
- Books from the school library can be borrowed to help with homework.



- Alternatives will be always be given to the use of a computer.
- A brief note written to the teacher is always welcomed if there is a difficulty.

## **Resources**

The main source of homework will be from the schemes of work being followed particularly in Literacy and Numeracy. We ensure that activities are selected on the basis of the way in which they reinforce and extend the learning outcomes from the work in school.