

Overton CE Primary School Home Learning Policy

Our Aims and Values

It is our aim that children are encouraged and challenged to develop to their true potential in a vibrant and exciting learning environment. Our vision is to develop an enthusiasm for learning and a desire for excellence to enable the whole school community to achieve their best. This vision is underpinned by six values which are: Challenge, Creativity, Independence, Interdependence, Reflection and Respect.

We believe that learning at home is an essential part of good education. Home learning opportunities should allow a child to develop skills and attitudes they will need for successful life long learning, including the skills of independent learning. These opportunities also allow parents and carers to take an active part in their child's education. All children are expected to take part in such activities to enhance and support their work in class.

Home learning activities are an important part of the home/school partnership.

Expectations

Recommended time for home learning activities set by school (not including reading in Key Stage 2):

Years 1 and 2	1 hour per week
Years 3 and 4	1 ½ hours per week
Years 5 and 6	2 ½ hours per week

We believe that other extra curricular activities are equally important, such as music and sport and that it is the responsibility of parents and children to make time for all activities to be completed. If there is an issue with insufficient time for completing home learning activities then parents need to speak to the class teacher in the first instance.

Some children who have special educational needs may not be able to access the activities given to the rest of the class, and individual arrangements will be made for these children in consultation with the class teacher and Inclusion Manager.

One of the main advantages of home learning activities is that parents and children are able to work together and parents are part of the learning process. For some families, available space, peace or resources for completing activities may be an issue. In these circumstances, and in consultation with the class teacher and deputy head teacher, time could be made available during lunch times or after school when school resources are made available for these families or individual children so that no child is disadvantaged.

All children will be issued with a book for home learning activities with instructions of what they need to do. Parents and children are expected to sign the book weekly. Teachers will mark each piece of work and give feedback.

The home/school link book can still be used for any queries regarding activities and any information the class teacher needs to be aware of. If there is a message in the link book it is the children's responsibility to bring it to the attention of the teacher, especially in Key Stage 2 where link books may not be checked every day.

Key Principles

For Staff:

- Home learning activities should be planned in advance, as part of the topic, to consolidate and extend learning in class
- Activities should be clearly explained; children and parents are clear where they need to go for support if needed
- Home learning books should be marked weekly and parents kept informed of their child's progress
- If an activity extends over more than a week then the class teacher needs to make regular checks on progress, and interim work needs to be monitored
- Expectations of presentation and quality are the same for home activities as they are for school work
- Home learning policy will be reviewed annually by the deputy head teacher in consultation with staff, children and parents

For Parents:

- A place for completing activities should be provided, without distractions
- Encourage and support your child. Show an interest in what they are learning
- Support the school by explaining to children that home learning is important and aids learning
- Sign and date home learning records when you are satisfied that it is of acceptable standard

For Pupils:

- Make the most of all the learning opportunities you are presented with
- Tackle tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in presentation and content
- Take responsibility for handing in completed work and making sure you have all the necessary equipment