

*"Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow"*



**Bishops Down Primary School**

[www.bishopsdownprimary.org](http://www.bishopsdownprimary.org)

# Home Learning (Homework) Policy

Written by: Rebecca Bettles, February 2021

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## ***“Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow”***

### **Home Learning at Bishops Down Primary School**

#### **Why do we have a Home Learning policy?**

This policy has been formed to address the need for a clear, purposeful approach to homework in our school. Our school refers to homework as ‘Home Learning’. This policy aims to set out the purpose of Home Learning, taking into account parental, staff and governor views and guidelines from the DFE.

At Bishops Down, the purpose of Home Learning is:

- To practise skills and knowledge as a follow up to lessons in school
- To develop independent study skills and good study habits
- To involve parents to take an interest in and support their child’s learning
- To encourage children to explore areas of interest to them
- To extend concepts and skills

#### **How much Home Learning will my child have?**

<b>Year Groups</b>	<b>Daily Reading Practise</b>	<b>Daily Maths Practise</b>	<b>Daily Spellings</b>
<b>Reception</b>	10 minutes	N/A	N/A
<b>Years 1 and 2</b>	10-15 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes
<b>Year 3 and 4</b>	20 minutes	10 minutes	10-15 minutes
<b>Year 5 and 6</b>	20-30 minutes	10-15 minutes	10-15 minutes

We recognise that parents/carers must manage Home Learning time according to their child’s needs or other things going on at any given time. These time allocations are therefore very much to be used as guidance and our recommendation for parents/carers, and for our school in the setting of Home Learning tasks. We recognise that the type and purpose of Home Learning activities changes as children move through the school.

It is important to establish partnerships with parent/carers and involve them actively in their child’s learning. As children move through the school, they will become more independent and be encouraged to take more responsibility over their homework by their class teacher.

Learning activities can be brief and may include activities such as:

- Simple games or activities to be shared together (family learning)
- Spelling practise
- Number facts including timetables
- Reading for pleasure
- Research projects
- Preparing presentations

These activities give children an opportunity to talk about what they are learning, and to practice skills in a supportive environment.

#### **When will my child have homework?**

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Days of setting and returning homework are determined by the class teacher and published in their termly topic web or weekly class note. Classes may have different ‘setting’ days because of their curriculum plans and timetables. Please do contact teachers if you require further support/information.

### **What will my child have to do?**

The content, timing and amount of Home Learning tasks are set according to the age and stage of your child. As you will see from the details above, the amount increases from year group to year group. The amount in Year 6 helps prepare children for homework they will receive at their secondary schools. If you have any queries or concerns please do talk to the class teacher. We want to work in close partnership with you so that Home Learning is a beneficial and enjoyable experience.

### **A note about reading**

As a school, we are a reading community and as such, we believe that daily reading is vital in helping to promote a culture of reading and ensure that our children are given the best life chances. For children in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One, Home Learning will largely consist of daily reading with parents/carers for 10 minutes a day as well as enjoying story books and other reading materials together. For more fluent readers, we encourage independent reading of up to 20 minutes per day. This may be done in the context of home learning (for example, reading a school reading book or reference book) or in the other contexts (such as reading from newspapers, comics, internet sites, signs etc) in order that children read a wide range of materials.

### **Co-ordination of Home Learning**

Class teachers are responsible for coordinating Home Learning. It is the class teacher’s responsibility to ensure that the demands of Home Learning tasks are manageable for children and parents/carers on a day to day basis. It is also the responsibility of the class teacher to set regular patterns of Home Learning.

Class teachers are responsible for allowing sufficient time for Home Learning tasks to be completed, which take into account time for information to be collected and other after school activities which children may be involved in.

Although this may be different for individual children, the class teacher will ensure that demands are as even and balanced as possible.

### **Feedback to children on Home Learning**

We recognise that completed Home Learning should be acknowledged and praised. Home Learning is often marked together or discussed in class and feedback will be given verbally. In addition, effort with Home Learning may be rewarded through our school behaviour and praise system.