



Catshill First School and Nursery

Home Learning Policy

Reviewed: March 2017

Next Review: March 2018

Signature Chair of Committee

Date

Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Commissioned Services

Human Resources – Liberata

Admissions – Babcock Prime

Learning and Achievement – Babcock Prime

Finance - WCC

At Catshill First School and Nursery we aim to develop children who are:

- Successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- Confident individuals who are able to lead safe and healthy lives
- Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society

Our focus for learning is to develop:

- Attitudes and attributes e.g., determined, adaptable, confident, risk taking and enterprising
- Skills e.g. literacy, numeracy, ICT (Information and Communications Technology), personal, learning and thinking skills
- Knowledge and understanding e.g. big ideas that shape the world

We believe that home learning should be enjoyable and motivating. We value the partnership with parents and families; home learning should enhance and develop this partnership by providing positive learning experiences for both the child and the parent. Above all it should benefit the child and encourage parents to work with the child.

We aim to match home learning to the ability and scope of the child. Home Learning helps children to gain extra learning opportunities which develop and consolidate important skills, especially those of independent learning.

Setting Home Learning

Home learning at Catshill First School and Nursery will be set according to the home learning activities table attached to this policy.

The table shows homework in Year groups. For mixed year group classes the teacher will amalgamate the two year groups identified home learning activities to ensure it is manageable and suitable for mixed age range classes.

All written home learning should be handed in by the agreed date and feedback should be given to the child. Pupils should complete the home learning activities at home. If there is a genuine problem with this, we ask for some form of communication from parents/carers explaining why homework has not been returned. If children continue to not engage with homework they may have to complete it at break or lunch time.

Home Learning will be looked at by the staff, can be shared in a circle time with the class and discussed with individuals. Staff can make a special mention to parents about achievements in home learning when they feel this to be appropriate. Home Learning should be valued by the whole school community and stamps, stickers, certificates, 'Star of the Week' and marking should be used to show how we value the learning and partnership with parents.

Home Learning Challenges will be set each half term and be connected to the Year group/Phase's curriculum topic. The outcome of these challenges will be displayed in classrooms and school corridors.

Please see the 'Ideas Speech Bubble' at the end of this policy.

ICT

We would encourage Parents/Carers to use on line learning at home if the opportunity is available. Computers should not be the only form of resource to pursue learning. Catshill

Middle School now has the Catshill Public Library as part of its setting. This is also a useful resource to support homework. Please ask the school about opening times and accessibility. Parents and Carers have the responsibility to engage with your child and check the sites are appropriate. A list of sites has been included at the end of this policy.

Celebrate

All contributions are valued and the range of developed ideas celebrated.

Review

The Executive Headteacher, Head of School, Staff, Parents/Carers and pupils will review this policy according to our Policy Review Programme and present any suggested amendments to the Governors for discussion and updating.

Children will be given adequate time to complete their Home Learning activities

Early Years Foundation Stage

EYFS Nursery	<p>There will be suggestions on how Parents/Carers can support their children's learning on the half termly curriculum newsletter. These ideas will link to the three Prime Areas of learning; Physical Development, Communication and Language and Personal, Social and Emotional Development and the four Specific Areas of Learning; Literacy, Mathematics, Knowledge of the World and Expressive Arts and Design.</p> <p>Parents will be encouraged to complete WOW messages about their children's learning at home for the 'Keeping in Touch' parent/carers board.</p>
EYFS Reception	<p>Shared reading of school reading book and completion of reading journal by parent/carers.</p> <p>Learning of phonemes, 'tricky' words and high frequency words to support phonics Children may bring some extra challenges home at the discretion of the teacher.</p> <p>There will be suggestions on how Parents/Carers can support their children's learning on the half termly curriculum newsletter. These ideas will link to the three Prime Areas of learning; Physical Development, Communication and Language and Personal, Social and Emotional Development and the four Specific Areas of Learning; Literacy, Mathematics, Knowledge of the World and Expressive Arts and Design.</p> <p>Parents will be encouraged to complete WOW messages about their children's learning at home for the 'Keeping in Touch' parent/carers board.</p>

KS1

Year 1	<p>Shared reading of school reading book and completion of reading journal by parent/carers. Phonic activities linked to current learning needs</p>	<p>Number Skills</p>
<p>Activities linked to the topic as and when the opportunity arises Half termly Home Learning Challenge</p>		
Year 2	<p>Shared reading of school reading book and completion of reading journal by parent/carers. Phonic/spelling activities linked to current learning needs</p>	<p>Practise Mental Maths and Number skills</p>
<p>Activities linked to the topic as and when the opportunity arises Half termly Home Learning Challenge</p>		

KS2

Year 3	<p>Shared reading of school reading book and completion of reading journal by parent/carers. Task based on current work</p>	<p>Practise mental number skills. Task based on current work</p>
<p>Activities linked to the topic e.g.; research or bringing artefacts or books from home as and when the opportunity arises Half termly Home Learning Challenge</p>		
Year 4	<p>Shared reading of school reading book and completion of reading journal by parent/carers. Task based on current work</p>	<p>Practise mental number skills. Task based on current work</p>
<p>Activities linked to the topic e.g.; research or bringing artefacts or books from home as and when the opportunity arises Half termly Home Learning Challenge</p>		

Home Learning Challenges

Home Learning Challenges are linked to the curriculum theme each half term. A number of challenges are sent home at the start of each half term. Children may choose to do one or several challenges. Home Learning Challenges may take a few weeks to complete and an expected completion date is given. In each classroom there will be a clearly defined area for a 'Home Learning Challenge' display which changes each half term. It will have signs and labels explaining the challenge and could include speech bubbles with comments from Parents/Carers and children about the challenge. Challenges will also be displayed in a central area of school when appropriate.

We will show how we value and how proud we are of home learning by celebrating in several ways. At the end of each half term, an assembly, where examples can be shown to the whole school, will be held. The opportunity for the children to share their home learning with another class could be planned into the half term. Parents and Carers can be invited to visit the display at the end of a day near the completion of the topic. Visitors who visit the class can also be shown the home learning challenges.

Home Learning Challenges may include:

Thinking Skills; odd one out, elaborate (what other uses are there for...), modify (how could you improve...), hypothesise (what if...) justify (would you rather...) etc.

ICT Links; Research, Power Points, animations, paint/pictures/photographs etc.

Cooking Challenges

Find and Classify; Resources, artefacts, facts, information etc.

Physical Challenges; Develop a training circuit, improving on previous best at a skill etc.

Creative Challenges; music links, design links, art links,

Create a game

Open ended investigations with choice of medium, e.g.; drawing, collage etc.

Practising a skill challenges

Literacy and Mathematics challenges

Science, History, Geography and Religious/Culture challenges

Business enterprise challenges

PSHE Challenge; feelings and emotions, relationships and I want to be..... etc.

Websites which can be used by pupils to enhance their learning or for additional opportunities include:

Read Theory

www.readtheory.org (Year 2, 3 and 4 - your child will have their own log in)

Education City

<https://ec1.educationcity.com/> (pupils have their own log ins)

Oxford Owl

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Maths, English and Topic activities

<http://www.ictgames.co.uk/>

<http://www.loders.dorset.sch.uk/resources/resources.htm>

<http://www.kented.org.uk/ngfl/games/>

<http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk/index-new.htm>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

<http://phonicsplay.co.uk>

<http://chiddingstone.kent.sch.uk/homework/science/index.html>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/places/>

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1

Computing/Coding

<https://hourofcode.com/uk/learn>

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Esafety:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk