



## **HOME LEARNING POLICY**

**Reviewed: Sept 2017**

**Next review: Sept 2019**

**Signed on behalf of the Governing Body**

*Karen Walker*     **Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017

### **Introduction**

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular home learning is important, since it gives children the opportunity to practice at home the tasks done in class, and helps the children work towards improving important skills. It also helps them to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school, and in adult life.

Home learning is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning. It can encompass a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support their children's learning.

We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Home Learning should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children.

### **Types of Home Learning**

At West Tytherley CE Primary, we believe that children need to develop and master the basic skills in order to access and engage in their learning, be successful at school and establish positive routines and attitudes towards learning that will support them in adult life.

**It is therefore essential that children:**

- **read regularly everyday** to and with an interested adult;
- know and become fluent in their **multiplication tables**
- practice and apply their understanding of **spelling and spelling patterns** to support their reading and writing
- learn to **tell the time** - as this is a skill that can be easily taught and reinforced, both at home and in school

**From time to time, the children may be set some additional home tasks that compliment their learning at school. These may include:**

- Learning parts for an assembly or production
- Undertaking individual research for a project
- Using web-based activities, e.g. Purple Mash
- Revising for exams or developing exam technique (completing SAT exercises, etc)
- Undertaking a survey
- Preparing a costume for a celebration day (e.g. Victorians, Greek Day)
- Finishing work at home
- Researching for a specific project or topic

**In addition to this, we would encourage parents to undertake a range of learning activities that may, or may not, be based on school learning. The following list gives a few examples:**

- A family outing e.g to a gallery, museum, place of interest, walk in countryside/park
- Going swimming
- Go outside and play (this does not mean more 'screen time')
- Playing board or word games
- Completing jigsaw puzzles
- Eat dinner with your family and help with setting and clearing up
- Being an active member of a sports club or youth organisation
- Playing imaginative games
- Making animations and movies
- Learning to ride a bike
- Developing a hobby
- Cooking, gardening, making things
- Ensuring children have opportunities to: cut, glue, stick, colour, paint, draw, make models
- Fostering a love of playing music
- Playing games that develop physical skills
- Building models e.g. Lego, blocks, K'nex.

Home Learning should not be a chore and children should see it as an extension of their learning. Whilst there is no specified time or duration for any tasks set by the school, we would expect parents to fully commit themselves to *reading everyday* with their child regardless of age or reading capability. Research has proven that the ability to read fluently and with understanding, from a wide range of texts, is one of the most effective skills that increase the life chances of all children.

If you have questions relating to the expectations for your child, please do discuss these with your child's class teacher and refer to curriculum letters that are published termly to parents.