Nether Green Junior School

HOME LEARNING POLICY

Approved by:	Governors
Last reviewed on:	Autumn Term 2026
Next review due by:	Autumn Term 2028

Rationale

Pupils work hard in school and should be encouraged to develop other skills and interests out of school time. They also need the opportunity to play, socialise and relax. We do, however, value the importance of home learning and the supportive role parents/carers can play. We believe that parents and carers play a vital role in supporting their child's learning journey throughout their school years. We want to work in partnership with parents and carers as we believe that by working together, with the full support of parents/ carers and staff, children have the best possible opportunity to reach their full potential. As a school, our aim is to support parents/ carers by sharing our knowledge of how children learn and by providing relevant and useful information to support them in doing this.

The Purpose of Home Learning

- To help to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in reading, writing and mathematics to further improve the children's learning
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, or with assistance, and ultimately to prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.
- To support all of our children to be inquisitive and to be lifelong learners
- To raise standards of pupil attainment
- To extend school learning

Reading At Home

Reading has a high priority in school and we recognise the valuable contribution parents/ carers can make in developing their children as fluent, proficient readers. Children are encouraged to bring home books from their class library or from the main school library , to read independently or to share with their parents/carers. It is suggested that parents/carers read with their child each day, including the adult reading to the child and discussing the text. As a child's reading improves, the type of involvement the parent/carer has can change. Competent readers also benefit from reading at home in order to develop higher order reading skills and parents/carers can support their children to do this. Children will also be encouraged to read for pleasure. Other reading activities may also form part of the home learning tasks. Regular reading is vitally important at all reading stages. Children are encouraged to read to or with their parents/ carers around three to four times per week.

Phonics: Children still needing to develop their reading skills will access interventions in school and this may include phonics sessions. These children will bring home appropriate reading books daily to consolidate the learning taking place in school.

Spelling: Spelling activities, based upon spelling patterns taught in school, are sent home weekly to support the children's class learning to be completed with support from parents/carers.

English: Writing and GPS (Grammar, punctuation and spelling) homework is set three times each half term to consolidate and reinforce learning that is taking place in class. In most cases, this should be recorded in their home learning book. In years 5 and 6, children will access Spag.com to complete GPS activities.

Mathematics: A maths task will be assigned every three weeks and should be completed in the child's home learning book. This will consolidate, and in some cases, extend the learning taking place in class. All children will have access to Times Tables Rock Stars (an online platform for practising times tables). Children will know which times table they are learning and the ones they need to consolidate. Times tables will be tested weekly in class and the result recorded in the child's home learning book.

Other Curriculum Areas: Three times each half term, children are asked to complete tasks at home which involve other curriculum areas. It is always encouraged that children will bring books or objects to support projects.
Each term there will also be an Online Safety home learning task for the children to complete and share with parents/ carers.
The Year group overview (available on the website) and half termly curriculum newsletters outline all the wider curriculum areas that will be taught each half term.
We recognise that some children like to be creative and like to do extra learning at home. Each half term there are a selection of additional activities for children to complete if they would like to do so.

Additional Needs
Some children may need the home learning to be adapted to enable them to access it successfully; this may mean a shortened task, an adapted task or it may be something completely different which better supports the individual needs of the child.

Communication of and completion of the homework task
Every child will be issued with an A4 exercise book in which will be recorded their homework task. It is their responsibility to look after the book and ensure it is taken home and returned on the appropriate days. Homework will be set on Friday and should be returned to school on the following Thursday. Children will share their Home Learning in class with their peers and class teacher. Each half term an information sheet outlining the home learning tasks will be stuck into the child's home learning book; this is to support children and parents/ carers when completing tasks.

Home Learning Information
Parents/carers are kept informed of home learning expectations throughout the year:

- Half termly curriculum newsletter shared via the school website and email
- Year group overviews (available on the website)
- Spellings published on the school website and in the child's home learning book
- Parent consultations
- Parent workshops / information sessions

Parents and Carers are encouraged to:

- Provide a suitable place in which parent and child can do their home learning together
- Make it clear to pupils that they value home learning and support the school in explaining how it can help their children make progress
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed home learning
- Inform school if they would like any extra guidance or help in this area

Usually, homework is not set over the holiday times as we view family time as an important part of a child's learning.