



HOME LEARNING POLICY

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Home Learning Policy

All of our pupils are expected to complete regular, relevant, purposeful and engaging home learning.

What is the purpose of home learning at Beechfield?

- We want our pupils to: *be safe, be kind, work hard and love learning.*
- We want them to develop: confidence, self-motivation and a sense of responsibility to study effectively on their own.
- Educational research shows that previewing work can double the rate of pupil progress, this is why many of our weekly home learning tasks take the form of preview work. Research shows that through familiarisation, and through talking about and practising things at home, a child will have a far higher rate of success when they come to visit a subject or task in class.
- Home learning tasks may also consolidate, reinforce and extend the skills and understanding developed at school.
- We want an effective partnership between the school, parents and children so that our pupils develop into *confident individuals, successful learners and responsible citizens.*

Recommended Time Allocation

Usually, more than one day will be allocated for the completion of a home learning task, except where daily practise is encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables.

The following are recommendations as appropriate time allocations for home learning activities:

- EYFS – 5 to 10 mins per day
- Years 1 and 2 - 1 hour per week (10-15 mins a day)
- Years 3 and 4 - 1.5 hours per week (20-25 mins a day)
- Years 5 and 6 - 30 minutes per day

General ways for parents to support their child's learning at home

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place for doing home learning
- Keep informed about the home learning that has been set and the deadlines involved in order to support your child/children
- Talk with your child and listen with genuine interest to promote good communication skills and an understanding of vocabulary.
- Ask them questions and show your willingness to learn (where, when, who, why, what)
- Read to/with your child regardless of their age and encourage them to talk about what they have read and what the words mean. Discussing books is important.
- Work together to develop a love of learning.
- Encourage your children and praise them for completing home learning.
- Let the school know if your child/children are experiencing difficulty with the type or amount of home learning set by the school
- Parents/Carers who have queries about home learning should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.

What are the weekly home learning tasks?

EYFS parents can share their home learning via Tapestry - the online learning journal. There will also be a homework folder sent home once a week with a phonics activity and another activity to be completed.

Preview Learning

This can be accessed through Purple Mash. Your child will have their own login and password. It will offer suggestions and guidance on the things that parents can do together with their child at home to ensure that they have a greater chance of success in the coming week.

Reading

We expect **ALL** children regardless of their age/Key Stage to read daily. It doesn't have to be a book, it could be a comic, magazine, newspaper, recipe, subtitles on the television, appropriate signs and captions in the street.

All children from Reception onwards should read and share books at home **every day and record this in their reading record**. Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 may also have specific words to practise related to the phonics they are working on. Parents can help their children at home by using these strategies:

- sounding out the word
- looking at the pictures to help with reading an unknown word
- looking for words within words
- finding 'special friends' e.g. sh, ea, ay
- discussing the book to check that the child has understood what has been read
- fostering a love of reading.

Key Stage 2 children should be reading for at least 20 minutes each day, either to themselves if they are a proficient reader, or to an adult. The children are responsible for filling in their reading record every day and making sure it is in school. Parents can help their children at home by using these strategies:

- talking about the story, the characters and any new vocabulary (even if they read alone)
- discussing why the author chose to use specific words
- identifying what the author is suggesting even though it may not be written literally
- encouraging children to read all types of texts including non-fiction
- fostering a love of reading.

Spellings

Children will have weekly spellings to learn. Home learning tasks for spelling will be set on Purple Mash. Teachers will check these have been completed. Daily practise and repetition will help the children to learn them. Strategies you can use at home to support with learning spellings are:

- practise writing them
- write them in 'rainbow writing' using a different colour for each letter
- use bubble writing
- write the syllables in different colours
- write the vowels in a different colour
- practise typing them in different fonts
- write them in sand, rice, flour
- use a paint brush and water

Times Tables

Daily practice of times tables will help embed them in the memory. This will reduce the working memory load when applying them in maths lessons.

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| Year 1 | counting in 2s, 5s and 10s |
| Year 2: | 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 |
| Year 3 | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 |
| Year 4: | all times tables up to 12 x 12 |
| Year 5 | all times tables |
| Year 6 | all times tables |

Other home learning

- Maths Seeds and Mathletics
- Purple Mash – activities from different curriculum areas
- Times Tables Rockstars
- Phonics videos