

THE FEDERATION OF NETTLESTONE & NEWCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOLS



HOME LEARNING POLICY

Date Agreed: April 2020

Review Date: April 2022

DMF Botlett

Signed: _____

Chairman Board of Governors
The Federation of Nettlestone & Newchurch Primary Schools

Revision No.	Date Issued	Prepared By	Approved	Comments
1	October 2015	JP		Revision of Policy in line with Federation with Nettlestone Primary School, in consultation with parents, staff and pupils.
2	January 2016	AJ/JP		Revision in line with new approach to Home Learning
3	November 2018	AJ/JP		Parent Forum have revised and checked along with Pupil consultation too
4	April 2020	AJ/JP/ KJH		Relaxation of specific days for submission of homelearning etc

All the Governors and Staff of the Federation of Nettlestone & Newchurch Primary Schools are committed to sharing a common objective to help keep the children and staff of the school community safe. We ensure that consistent effective safeguarding procedures are in place in order to support families, children and staff of the school.

Purpose

This policy acts as a guide to Home Learning at Nettlestone & Newchurch Primary Schools to ensure a shared understanding and consistency of approach throughout the whole school.

Rationale

Home learning is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. The introduction of the Home Learning Grids in 2015 was to provide the element of choice and challenge for the pupil and increase motivation to support the class learning at home. The grid must reflect a variety of learning styles, be appropriate for the age and stage of pupils and provide an opportunity for independent learners to choose the order in which they will attempt the tasks set. Each task set has the purpose of consolidating learning, deepening understanding and preparing pupils very well for work to come.

For some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources which are more readily available at school (books, software, equipment), it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school. We also offer a free Homework Club which is supervised once a week from 3-4pm to help with Home Learning tasks.

Home Learning enhances pupil knowledge and understanding, improves achievement and develops pupils' study skills and, as such, is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and complements programmes of study within the curriculum areas for each class.

Aims:

Home Learning promotes the development of a pupil's skills. This may include the ability to:

- consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- access resources not available in the classroom.
- develop research skills.
- have an opportunity for independent work.
- show progress and understanding.
- provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching.
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.

- take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- engage parental co-operation, communication and support between home and school.

Actions

- A Home Learning book will be provided for each pupil with an understanding that some task will be submitted in other formats eg on a Pen Drive for IT based tasks, captured by photographs if a practical based task for example.
- Pupils and their parents must be clear about what is required, and the date that Home Learning must be returned to school. At the start of the academic year the classteacher will make clear their expectations of which day the tasks will be set and which day they will be expected to be returned. This will be the same every week for their class deviations only to accommodate Bank Holidays or residential trips and visits. Parents will therefore be aware of when to look out for these additional tasks. A choice of various tasks are set at the beginning of every half term on our 'Home Learning Grid' for each class. The children can choose 6 out of 9 as a minimum to complete over the half term but all 9 tasks may be completed if desired.
- Tasks should be carefully planned and structured to support progression in learning for that half term period.
- Children should receive prompt and clear feedback on their work.
- Home Learning Tasks should be in addition to the 10 minutes of daily reading for each child, and in KS2 times tables should be practised also.

Class	Estimated Time for Home Based Learning	Identified types of Home Learning
Reception Class	30 mins per week	Reading, letter formation, handwriting, and topics from Home Learning Grid
Years 1 and 2	1 hour per week	Reading, spellings, maths and times- tables. Topic activities as well from Home Learning Grid.
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours per week	Literacy and Maths and times-tables with occasional tasks in other subjects. Topic activities as well from Home Learning Grid
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day	Literacy (Reading, Writing), SPAG, Maths and additional research aspects will be given throughout the week and the teacher will clarify as to when the expected return date will be. Topic activities as well from Home Learning Grid.

Responsibilities

The role of the pupil:

- To listen to Home Learning instructions in class for the tasks set.

- To ensure that in addition to the spellings, times tables and reading, they choose a task each week from the Home Learning Grid and that it is completed to a high standard and handed in to their teacher.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties and ask for help if unsure of task set.
- Failure to complete a piece of Home Learning should be treated in the same way as failure to complete a piece of class work (Positive Behaviour Policy), and parents will be contacted.
- To maintain the same standards for presentation of Home Learning as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a good level of presentation (which includes the layout of date, title, underlined, etc.)

The role of the Class Teacher:

The class teacher controls the direction of home learning and the nature of tasks undertaken:

- All activities will have clear learning intentions, which are linked to the curriculum content, and a success criteria.
- Provide a Home Learning Grid which offers choice in various skill sets ie thinking skills, research, create, art, investigation, and promotes a level of inquiry.
- Ensure that the Home Learning is achievable and not onerous on the parents for resources and additional expense in order for the tasks to be completed.
- Children will continue to follow the presentation expectations.
- To note and respond to any comments written by parents.
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Feedback appropriately (linked to Marking & Feedback Policy) and return all Home Learning promptly with guidance or advice where necessary.
- To include Home Learning updates in pupil mentoring meetings with parent and child.

The role of the Parent:

The role of the parent is crucial if a child is to gain success from Home Learning. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give pupils the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

- Providing a quiet place and support for the task to be attempted.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
- Checking presentation and content of all Home Learning being returned to school.
- Providing the school with information about any problems through the student planner, talking to the class teacher or by contacting the school directly.
- Ensure that Home Learning is returned to school within the required time frame.

Monitoring & Review

It is the role of the Governing Body to monitor the policy and practice of Home Learning across the Federation of Nettlestone & Newchurch Primary Schools.