

# Sonning Church of England Primary School

## Home Learning Policy



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## Introduction

At Sonning Church of England Primary School, our vision is to build strong foundations for the years ahead. Supported by our school values of love, courage, respect, aspiration and curiosity, we seek to help pupils make positive choices in all they do. Like the wise man who built his house upon the rock (Matthew 7:24-25), we follow our Christian values to build strong foundations for the years ahead.

Home Learning plays an important role in the way we educate our children at Sonning Church of England Primary School and this policy clarifies the objectives, methods and expectations as well as the role teachers, pupils and parents play in making this successful.

## Scope

The Home Learning Policy aims to clarify the aims, objectives and methods Sonning Church of England Primary School use to operate its Home Learning Policy. This includes the following aims:

- To provide the opportunity for parents and pupils to share in the learning experience.
- To give pupils the opportunities to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and learning behaviours, manage their time and develop the practice of independent study.
- To provide the opportunity to extend and develop work in all curriculum areas undertaken in school.
- To encourage the use of a range of resources outside school such as the internet, libraries and museums, as well as other community resources and organisations.
- To provide the opportunity for pre-learning of topics, research, application, practice, reinforcement and consolidation of work carried out in school.

This is all set up to support pupils to develop strong foundations for the years ahead in their learning and attitudes.

**Building strong foundations for the years ahead (Matthew 7:24-25)**

Love - Courage - Respect - Aspiration - Curiosity

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### Organisation of home learning

Home learning is separated into two categories: core subject home learning and creative home learning.

#### The core offer of home learning

A home learning grid will be shared with the pupils at the beginning of each term. This will have a range of activities that will be completed over the course of the term, specifically focus on. The activities will reflect the learning relevant to the pupils, and linked to reading and maths.

The pupils may be asked to complete their tasks in a variety of ways; this should maximise their engagement with the tasks and develop a broad range of skills, allowing the individual children to be creative and challenged.

#### Creative home learning

To foster a sense of independence, as well as develop new skills, the school will set a creative home learning task each term. This will be a task set for all pupils in the school.

There will be a showcase event each term, to which all parents are invited. This allows pupils to share their learning with others, developing their oracy and communication skills, as well as their ability to present to others.

### Communication of home learning

- The Home Learning Policy is available on the school website
- Information is shared with parents at the initial Class information sessions each September.
- Termly home learning (including creative home learning) is shared via each child's Cohort Team on MS Teams.
  - For Key Stage 2, pupil learning organisers are also used to support the communication of activities, deadlines or resources required.

### Home learning expectations

The following expectations from different stakeholders are key to this policy:

#### Teachers

The teachers should ensure that the following measures are carried out:

- All the Home Learning instructions are clear and adequate.
- All Home Learning is purposeful.
- Home Learning handed in is acknowledged and praised through a Gold, Silver and Bronze reward system and if appropriate other feedback decided by the class teacher
- Feedback is given to pupils through the sharing of work with peers, presentation of Home Learning to the class (if appropriate) and feedback from the class teacher.

#### Pupils

- The pupils will be expected to produce Home Learning of a high standard, in line with the standard of work that is expected in school.
- They are expected to take responsibility for handing in their Home Learning on time and on the days set by their teachers.

#### Parents

- Home Learning gives parents the opportunity to see what their child is learning across the curriculum.

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- It is beneficial for pupils to follow a Home Learning routine through establishing a set time and place to complete activities or task.
- They should support their child with Home Learning activities, including helping children develop time management and independent working skills. Reading records (Key Stage 1) and planners (Key Stage 2) should be recorded in and checked regularly by parents.
- Where internet access is not available at home, arrangements will be made to support children with alternate provision.
- Parents should encourage and praise their child when they have completed their Home Learning.
- Parents are not expected to spend money on expensive resources to support their children's Home Learning

### Rewards, sanctions and support

In line with our behaviour policy, there will be appropriate rewards for those who achieve well or put excellent effort into their home learning, and sanctions for those pupils who do not put the appropriate effort into their home learning.

However, the school does take into account that home learning is to be completed at home and, therefore, this often requires parental support (especially for older pupils). With this in mind, there will often be discussions with parents regarding the level of support they can provide for their child/ren when home learning is not completed, and this also takes into account the attainment levels of the pupils and the need for additional support, in and out of school.

Parents should also refer to the aims of this policy and the good nature of the relationship building, as the overarching desire of home learning is to support pupils to develop their independence, learning behaviours and skillset so that they can build strong foundations for the years ahead.