



NORTH STAR **COMMUNITY TRUST**

Home learning policy

Primary Academies

October 2020

Introduction

This policy has been developed after consultation with children, parents, staff and Governors. We have built on the successful elements of the previous policy by introducing greater consistency across the schools and a stronger focus on differentiation for children.

There is extensive evidence and research which supports the theory that completing additional work and activities at home benefits children in making better progress.

We believe that home learning: -

- is an enjoyable and interesting experience for all involved,
- contributes significantly to a child's progress,
- is an excellent opportunity for parents to become more familiar with their child's learning
- allows children to receive extra adult support
- enhances children's learning through consolidating and extending the work they have done in school
- is a valuable life skill and develops good work habits for secondary school and future employment
- is be consistent across all classes in a year group and has consistent elements across the school
- is pitched at the right level for the child's attainment
- is manageable for busy family lifestyles

Routines for home learning

Daily home learning expectations

Reading, spellings, number bonds and timestables.

Weekly home learning expectations

Maths and English home learning will be set on our online learning platform (DB Primary)

Home Learning **is set on a Friday and must be uploaded by the following Tuesday (or as instructed by the Head teacher)** of the next week (onto DB Primary).

Half termly home learning expectations

Paper based projects linked to a child's learning journey.

Home learning is not sent home during the school holidays however, children can use our online learning platform to access self-learning games.

Home learning in Nursery

Nursery children are not set weekly home learning tasks.

Instead, the staff working with your child may suggest ideas for personalised activities that you could do with your child to support their specific and individual development.

Home learning tasks

- once a week children have the opportunity to choose a library book to share with parents at home.
- practise phonic and number knowledge

Home learning expectations

Reading

- Parents are expected to read with their child every day and record in their home / school reading record.
- Children will choose a book from the class library to take home to share with their parents.
- When children are ready, they will also take home a *Read, Write, Inc* book to read with parents.
- At the start of the year parents will find an information sheet stuck in child's home / school reading record about how they can help support the development of different reading skills at home.

Phonics and writing

- Emphasize the initial sound in objects found at home.
- Sound talk words when possible so parents encourage their child to work out what word they are saying.
- Name the sound and letter name for each letter.
- Practise letter formation from the child's name and other letters from the alphabet in a range of ways. e.g. air write, make or build the letter and practise writing the letter.
- Parents should encourage their child to write their name.

Maths

- On a daily basis children are expected to practise basic number skills in order for them to become fluent and efficient mathematicians.

For example:

- Recognise numbers, shapes and colours in the environment,
- Learn number songs,
- Count in order to 10,
- Count out objects.

Tapestry | An online learning journal

Our schools use 'an online learning journal called 'Tapestry' to assess and track the progress of our Nursery and Reception children and parental consent is sought when their child joins the school.

We will support all nursery parents to set up an online Tapestry account.

Through Tapestry you can see what your child has been up to in Nursery (photos, video and comments) and we encourage parents to also upload what their child has been doing at home in order to give us a broader overview of their development.

This additional information helps us assess and plan for your child against the Early Learning Goals.

Further information

More information about how Tapestry uses personal data can be found in the [Privacy notice | Tapestry information and consent form for early years](#) available on the policies page of our website

The tapestry website can also be found here: <https://tapestry.info/>

Home learning in Reception

Home learning tasks

- children must bring their book bags every day and change their reading books as and when needed.
- weekly maths or English will be sent home on paper.
- children will have access to DB Primary for self-learning games.
- half termly project work will be sent home at the beginning of each half term.
- home learning is designed to be enjoyable and each task should not take longer than 10 minutes

DAILY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Parents are expected to read with their child every day and record in their home / school reading record.
- Initially, children will choose a book from the class library to take home to share with their parents.
- When children are ready, they will also take home a colour banded text and a *Read, Write, Inc* book to read with parents
- At the start of the year parents will find an information sheet stuck in child's home / school reading record about how they can help support the development of different reading skills at home.

Phonics and writing

- Parents should practise reading and writing the sounds and words that their child has learnt each day / week.

Maths

- On a daily basis a child is expected to practise basic number skills in order for them to become fluent and efficient mathematicians.

For example:

- Recognise numbers, shapes and colours in the environment,
- Encourage children to match number with quantity
- Compare quantities
- Learn number songs
- Count in order to 20
- Count out objects.

WEEKLY Home learning expectations

Maths or English

- This will start as number and letter formation and will progress as the year goes on to a more complex understanding of number and simple phrases and sentences.

HALF TERMLY Home learning expectations

- Projects linked to a child's learning journey will be sent home each half term.
- There will be a choice of three different tasks. Children will need to complete at least one of these and bring them into class during the final week of the half term.

Tapestry | An online learning journal

Our schools use 'an online learning journal called 'Tapestry' to assess and track the progress of our Nursery and Reception children and parental consent is sought when their child joins the school.

We will support all reception parents to set up an online Tapestry account.

Through Tapestry you can see what your child has been up to in Reception (photos, video and documents) and we encourage parents to also upload what their child has been doing at home in order to give us a broader overview of their development.

This additional information helps us assess and plan for your child against the Early Learning Goals.

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Home learning in Years 1 and 2

Home learning tasks

- Children must bring their book bags every day and change their reading book as and when needed.
- Weekly Maths or English home learning will be set on DB Primary.
- Half termly project work will be sent home at the beginning of each half term.
- Home Learning is designed to be enjoyable and each task should not take longer than 20-30 minutes

DAILY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Parents are expected to listen to their child read for 15 minutes every day.
- Parents are expected to record in their child's home / school reading record so teachers can see how much they are reading and any problems they may be having. This can be a comment or a signature.
- Your child will bring home a *Read Write Inc* book, a colour-banded text appropriate to their attainment and they can also choose an extra book from the class library if they wish.
- At the start of the year parents will find an information sheet stuck in their child's home / school reading record about how they can help support the development of different reading skills at home.

High frequency words

- There are over 300 high frequency words a child will need to learn to become an effective reader and writer.
- At the start of the year, a list of high frequency words and tricky words will be sent home (in the back of a child's reading record) for parents to practise reading and spelling them with their child.
- Parents should encourage their child to use these words accurately in their writing too.

Maths

- On a daily basis your child is expected to practise basic number skills in order for them to become fluent and efficient mathematicians. For example:

- **Year 1**

- Talk about numbers in the environment,

Find one more or one less than any given number

Learn odd and even numbers and count in multiples of two, five and ten,

Learn their number bonds within 20 (e.g. $13 + 7 = 20$, $15 - 12 = 3$)

▪ **Year 2**

Children should secure the Year 1 skills and be practising different maths facts such as:

Consolidate and rapidly recall number bonds to 20 and extending to 100,

Rapidly recall doubles and halves,

Recall multiples from the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables,

Focus on place value by finding ten more or less and one hundred more or less than any given number

WEEKLY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Children can also borrow books from our school library during their weekly library slot.
- Practice reading and writing the sounds and words that your child has learnt each day / week.
- **Year 1 children need to sit a national phonics test.**

Maths or English

- Tasks will be set via on our online learning platform (DB Primary) and children will need to upload their work back onto this site.
- Handwriting practise will be sent home on paper.

HALF TERMLY Home learning expectations

- Projects linked to a child's learning journey will be sent home each half term.
- There will be a choice of three different tasks. Children will need to compete at least one of these and bring them into class during the final week of the half term.

Home learning in Years 3 and 4

Home learning tasks

- Children must bring their book bags every day and change their reading book as and when needed.
- Weekly Maths or English home learning will be set on DB Primary.
- Half termly project work will be sent home at the beginning of each half term.
- Home Learning is designed to be enjoyable and each task should not take longer than 30-40 minutes

DAILY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Parents are expected to listen to their child read for at least 20 minutes every day.
- Parents are expected to sign in their child's home / school reading record so teachers can see that they have read with their child. Parents can leave comments if they wish.
- Children must make a comment in their home / school reading record based upon reading skills they have been learning about in class.
- Children choose and take home a colour- banded text appropriate to their attainment and they can also choose an extra book from the class library if they wish.
- At the start of the year parents will find an information sheet stuck in their child's home / school reading record about how they can help support the development of different reading skills at home.

Spellings

- In the National Curriculum there is a statutory spelling list of 100 words for Years 3 and 4
- Children need to learn to read and spell these in order for them to continue to be an effective reader and writer.
- At the start of the year, a list of these statutory words will be sent home (in the back of the child's reading record) for parents to practise reading and spelling them their child.
- We expect parents to encourage their child to use these words accurately in their writing too.
- For less confident spellers, we will send home additional spelling related work, lists and / or resources for individuals who need to catch up.

Maths

- On a daily basis a child is expected to practise basic number skills in order for them to become fluent and efficient mathematicians. For example:
 - Pairs of numbers to 100 (e.g. $35 + 65 = 100$)
 - Rapid recall of times table facts and corresponding division facts up to 12×12 . (e.g. $5 \times 7 = 35$ and $35 \div 7 = 5$)
- This is essential because by the end of year 4 the Department of Education expect all children to know all multiplication facts to 12×12 off by heart.
- **Year 4 children need to sit a national multiplication test.**

WEEKLY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Children can also borrow books from our school library during their weekly library slot.

Maths or English

- Tasks will be set via on our online learning platform (DB Primary) and children will need to upload their work back onto this site.

HALF TERMLY Home learning expectations

- Projects linked to a child's learning journey will be sent home each half term.
- There will be a choice of three different tasks. Children will need to complete at least one of these and bring them into class during the final week of the half term.

Home learning in Years 5 and 6

Home learning tasks

- Children must bring their book bags every day and change their reading book as and when needed.
- **Year 5** weekly Maths **or** English home learning will be set on DB Primary.
- **Year 6** weekly Maths **and** English home learning will be set on DB Primary.
- Half termly project work will be sent home at the beginning of each half term.
- Home Learning is designed to be enjoyable and each task should not take longer than 90 minutes

DAILY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Parents are expected to listen to their child read for at least 20 minutes every day.
- Children are expected to read every day for a **further** 20 minutes (40 minutes in total).
- Children must read something every day, this could include a range of texts of different formats (e.g. e-books, newspapers, magazine articles, journals and online texts)
- Children must make a comment in their home / school reading record based upon reading skills they have been learning about in class.
- Children choose and take home a colour-banded text appropriate to their attainment and they can also choose an extra book from the class library if they wish.
- At the start of the year parents will find an information sheet stuck in their child's home / school reading record about how they can help support the development of different reading skills at home.

Spellings

- In the National Curriculum there is a statutory spelling list of 100 words for Years 5 and 6
- Children need to learn to read and spell these in order for them to continue to be an effective reader and writer.
- At the start of the year, a list of these statutory words will be sent home (in the back of the child's reading record) for parents to practise reading and spelling them their child.
- We expect parents to encourage their child to use these words accurately in their writing too.
- For less confident spellers, we will send home additional spelling related work, lists and / or

resources for individuals who need to catch up.

Maths

- On a daily basis a child is expected to practise basic number skills in order for them to become fluent and efficient mathematicians. For example:
 - Pairs of numbers to 100 (e.g. $35 + 65 = 100$)
 - Rapid recall of times table facts and corresponding division facts up to 12×12 . (e.g. $5 \times 7 = 35$ and $35 \div 7 = 5$)
 - Rapid recall of times tables and their corresponding division facts up to 12×12
 - Factors of a number (e.g. the factors of 24 are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24)
 - Square Numbers, (e.g. $8 \times 8 = 64$)
 - Cube Numbers, (e.g. $3 \times 3 \times 3 = 27$)
 - Prime Numbers (e.g. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11 etc...)

WEEKLY Home learning expectations

Reading

- Children can also borrow books from our school library during their weekly library slot.

Maths OR English (Year 5) / Maths AND English (Year 6)

- Tasks will be set via on our online learning platform (DB Primary) and children will need to upload their work back onto this site.

HALF TERMLY Home learning expectations

- Projects linked to a child's learning journey will be sent home each half term.
- There will be a choice of three different tasks. Children will need to complete at least one of these and bring them into class during the final week of the half term.