

**Freegrounds Infant School**  
**Home Learning Policy**



**1. Introduction**

Freegrounds Infant School is a Rights Respecting school. Children and adults work together to recognise and act upon the rights of the child within our school, our local community and the wider world. We believe that by understanding their own rights children learn to respect and value the rights of others. This policy exemplifies these rights and our practise aims to ensure that the following rights are adhered to:

In this Policy we specifically recognise the following articles from the UN convention on the Rights of the Child:

**Article 3** - The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

**Article 6** - Every child has the right to be supported to live and grow.

**Article 17** - Every child has the right to get information in lots of ways as long as it's safe.

**Article 29** - Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures and the environment.

**Article 30** - Every child has the right to an education.

**2. Rationale**

At Freegrounds Infant School we believe that learning is not confined to the vicinity of the school and the school day. We believe that children learn best when they are able to apply their skills and knowledge in context as regularly as possible, during opportunities where they can talk about their thoughts and ideas.

We also believe that children develop a positive attitude towards learning if they can see their learning is valued and celebrated by others. The most important way a parent can support their child at home is to show an interest in what they do at school.

To this end we aim to work with parents to share the importance of these interactions and opportunities to embed learning at home and maximise progress and development.

**3. The purpose of homework**

There are many other advantages in parents helping their child to continue their learning at home. These include:

- ❖ Developing a love of learning
- ❖ The power of learning together
- ❖ Developing lifelong skills

- ❖ Learning in a different environment
- ❖ The opportunity to extend and enrich learning at school
- ❖ Sharing expertise and skills
- ❖ Valuing what a child can do
- ❖ Providing an audience for the child
- ❖ Opportunity for creativity
- ❖ Understanding more about what the child is learning at school
- ❖ Enjoyment

Any opportunity where a child is encouraged to apply their skills in context and for purpose is beneficial to their social, emotional, physical and academic development.

**We believe that working together with parents will help our children achieve their very best.**

#### **4. Reading**

We also think that reading and spelling are very important and will encourage parents to practice reading with their child as regularly as possible.

Children are encouraged to independently select books from the different colour band boxes daily to take home and either share or read by themselves. They will also have the opportunity each week to select a library book from the school library to take home and share. Guidance on sharing books at home can be found in the front of each child's Reading Journal.

In EYFS, parents and children are encouraged to use the children's reading log to record when they have read at home. Tapestry can also be used to upload comments or videos of 'wow' moments in reading that has taken place at home. At school, your child's class teacher will use Tapestry to log reading and to comment on your child's progress against the targeted learning objective. This will include photographs and/or videos of follow up tasks that have taken place in Guided Reading.

In Key Stage 1, parents and children are encouraged to use the children's Reading Journal to record when they have read at home at the back for the Reading Journal. Follow up tasks from Guided Reading sessions are also recorded in these books at the front to allow parents the opportunity to see what the child has been learning in school and to stimulate conversation about learning at home.

However, we do recognise that there are many opportunities to apply reading skills which may not necessarily be isolated to reading books, for examples, comics, letters, postcards, shopping lists and subtitles on the television.

As children are taught the new graphemes in phonics copies of these graphemes are sent home to parents along with key words and high frequency words.

#### **5. Writing and Mathematics**

Children will also receive Writing and Maths homework on a bi-weekly basis. This will be in the form of a fun, interactive activity where, as much as possible will develop their mathematical thinking whilst taking part in fun, everyday activities.

## **6. Additional opportunities to consolidate learning**

There may be opportunities at any point in the school day and in any lesson where ideas and suggestions for children to consolidate their learning at home may occur. For example, when learning about plants, the teacher may suggest that the children could see how many different plants they can spot on the way home or in Collective Reflection children may be invited to create their own power point presentations for an upcoming theme. Children can then choose whether they wish to take this opportunity if it is of interest to them.

Where appropriate, when individual children need extra consolidation, additional materials may be provided for them to take home or activities suggested to parents which could be used to practice and embed learning.

## **7. Weekly Home Learning Activities**

Suggested Home Learning Activities will be sent home each week for the children to complete at home. In each year group every child will be given a home learning folder at the beginning of the year. In EYFS and Year 1 the folder will also contain a Phonics folder which will contain phonics cards in relation to what they have learnt that week. There will also be a Home Learning book for the children to complete the suggested activity in EYFS. In Year 1 and 2 the children will have 2 books, English/ Project book and a Maths book. These will alternate each week in relation to the activity. Home Learning will be sent home on a Friday via the year group newsletter and uploaded to Google Classroom and then collected in the following Wednesday. Class teachers will keep a record of home learning completed by their class.

## **8. Home learning due to COVID absence.**

If a child is absent from school due to COVID, English and Maths homework will be uploaded to Google Classroom. It is expected that any work completed at home during this time will be sent into school upon their return.

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