

Home Learning Policy

The purpose of home learning

By setting regular home learning for pupils, we aim to:

- develop an effective partnership between the school and parents/carers in pursuing the aims of the school and the development of their child
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading
- encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

For children in Key Stage 1, the emphasis of learning at home is on developing a partnership with parents/carers and involving them actively in their child's learning.

Reading together also provides a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practice key skills in a supportive environment.

As children get older home learning provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning, and this should increasingly become its main purpose. It is important that children should gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time to study on their own.

In both KS1 and KS2 the homework programme will cover a wide range of tasks and curriculum content but in KS2 this should be completed independently where possible. This will ensure that, in relation to homework their transition to Year 7/Secondary school is as smooth as possible.

The structure of home learning at Roundthorn

All pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 will be provided with a '**Research Log**' in which to complete their homework. At the beginning of a new topic, teachers will glue a Curriculum Overview in to every child's Research Log, along with a list of suggested home learning activities that will complement and extend the in-class learning. In some classes, these may be provided on a week by week basis, however in others the full half terms list may be provided in one go.

In the EYFS, parents will be provided with a list of simple activities, linked to the topic and to early skills that they can do with their child at home

Pupils are then expected to select and complete several or all of the activities over the length of the half term, with the support of their parents/carers.

Suggested activities in all year groups should contain a mixture of core and foundation subjects and may include making models, creating scrapbooks, completing challenges and even visiting places together.

As far as possible these activities should be open-ended and allow the pupil to access them at a level that is suitable for their needs and abilities, and to record in their Research Log in a way that is pertinent and meaningful to them, using a mixture of writing, drawings, photographs, charts, leaflets and other items that have been collected etc.

Pupils should be encouraged to fill their Research logs decorate them and make them their own.

At the end of the topic/ half term, teachers will send home a reflection sheet for both pupil and parent to fill in together, allowing them to reflect on their home learning, what they have enjoyed and how their learning has improved, amongst other things.

Reading

Regular reading is vital. For children in Key Stage 1 home learning **must include** regular reading with parents/carers and looking at books together, at least 10 minutes per day. Maintaining regular reading practice and listening to others read is essential throughout school. Children in key stage 2 should be encouraged to read for at least 20 minutes a day.

Supplementary home learning

From time to time, teachers may also supplement in-class learning with additional home learning. This may be on an individual basis and may relate to a particular maths or literacy focus.

Responding to home learning

Pupils will be provided with feedback on their home learning in accordance with the schools Feedback for Learning policy.

Quality home learning will be celebrated in assemblies and may be displayed on the dedicated board in the hall or outside classrooms.

In the EYFS, parents will be invited in to celebrate home learning that has taken place at the end of each half term.

In school support

School will provide materials to pupils and families who have difficulty sourcing these themselves. For children in key stage 2 who have difficulty organising themselves at home to complete homework, lunchtime and early morning sessions will be available in school for them to complete it.

School will also provide support for any parents who are finding it difficult to support their child at home.