



The Orchard Vision: *Inspiring Success*
Values: *Determination, Courage, Respect*

The Orchard Homework Policy 2021

We want our school to be a **centre of excellence** for learning- for children and adults and our wider community. We want to create a school where:

- Children make outstanding progress and are confident, independent, enthusiastic and determined learners
- Staff are inspirational practitioners, able and enthusiastic to learn from and develop others
- Everyone shows respect and consideration for other people

We want to grow through supporting and developing other schools and continuing to learn ourselves. We want our school to be a **rich, exciting and fun** environment which is underpinned by these important characteristics:

Learning:

- Creating and thinking critically: Problem solving – using and applying skills
- Confidence to take risks and to be independent
- Collaboration
- Responsibility, Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflection, Reasoning (5Rs)
- Exploring, Playing
- Active learning
- Tolerance and respect for others, their ideas and opinions
- Enthusiasm for learning

Teaching:

- Tenacious- wanting the best for every child , every lesson, every day
- Engaging and Inspiring
- Analytical and reflective assessment: rigorous and influences every lesson
- Challenging- underpinned by high expectations
- High Quality Interaction- questioning and feedback which guides next steps, praises effort
- Excellent relationships underpinned by care and respect
- Rich Language and learning environment

Rationale:

At The Orchard we work together with parents communicating information about the curriculum, encouraging children to transfer school learning to home and home learning to school. We believe that homework makes an essential contribution to childrens learning and we value the support of parents in this. We aim to inform parents about the work that the children are doing at school, as well as give guidance on the activities which will support their learning at home.

Aims of Policy

- to enhance pupil achievement
- to develop confidence, enthusiasm for learning inside and outside school
- to establish and encourage good working habits
- to inform and involve parents
- to encourage the use of a range of learning approaches and resources
- to establish clear expectations of parent and pupil involvement
- to ensure consistency, continuity and progression throughout the school

Context:

In each year group and for each homework activity talk is the most important element. Listening to your child is essential, asking questions which will enable him/her to think carefully, develop ideas and recall information. Visits to different places whether on holiday or local areas, and the use of the library also underpin successful home learning. When learning from school is supported by activities which are part of home life the children see the purpose of their learning and are motivated by this.

Home School Communication

Communication between home and school is a key factor in determining the success of the homework policy.

- Reading record diaries are used daily by teachers, Learning Support Assistants and parents to record books read, skills and strategies being used or to develop and attitudes towards reading. This communication assists teachers in determining the next step to ensure children’s progress in reading. We ask parents to read daily with their children and record in the reading diary 5 times each week.
- A termly letter from the teacher explains what is being taught each term and provides suggestions of how to help at home.
- Weekly curriculum overview of “what we are learning this week” is posted on the school website and on classroom doors. This is posted at the end of a week to show what is happening next week.
- Advice on how to help your child at home is on our school website and links to useful websites.
- Parent Training videos are available on our website about how to support talk, maths, reading and writing.
- Every child in the school has a log-in for ‘Espresso’ , “Mathletics”, “Oxford Owl” and “Spelling Shed” for home learning and to our school learning platform where teachers post homework tasks and ideas.
- Each break there is a topic research piece of homework to do during the holiday
- Please also refer to our Remote Learning Offer in case of a class bubble being sent home.

The following explain the differing activities which children are expected to do and the processes in place on a daily, weekly, half-termly and ongoing basis.

| | Expectations | | | |
|------------------|---|--|--|---|
| | Daily | Weekly | Half Termly | Ongoing Web resources |
| Reception | Reading (approx 5 mins) Spelling and writing the word of the day | What we are learning this week. This includes learning to practice at home every week: | Topic research at home during holiday End of each half term assessment- | Spelling Shed Espresso Mathletics |

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|-----------------|---|---|---|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonics • High Frequency words • Mental Maths • Words of the week • Key vocabulary • Topic info | share results and next step targets with parents. | |
| Year One | <p>Reading Approx 10-15 minutes</p> <p>Spelling and writing the word of the day</p> | <p>What we are learning this week. This includes learning to practice at home every week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonics • High Frequency words • Mental Maths • Words of the week • Key vocabulary • Topic info | <p>Topic research at home during holiday</p> <p>End of each half term assessment-share results and next step targets with parents</p> | Spelling Shed Espresso Mathletics |
| Year Two | <p>Reading Approx 15-20 minutes</p> <p>Spelling and writing the word of the day</p> | <p>What we are learning this week. This includes learning to practice at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonics • High Frequency words • Mental Maths • Words of the week • Key vocabulary • Topic info <p>Dictation (5 words of the week written in full sentences)</p> <p>Reading comprehension</p> | <p>Topic research at home</p> <p>End of each half term assessment-share results and next step targets with parents</p> | Spelling Shed Espresso Mathletics |

Reviewed June 2021