



# Home Learning Policy

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.

Nova Primary School Governor Information	
Model Policy	No
Local Changes	
Customisation*	
Originally Adopted	Summer 2015
Last Review Date	
Next Review Date	Autumn 2015
* additions made to policy (eg local detail) but not a change to any policy structure	

History of most recent Policy changes – Must be completed

Date	Page	Change	Origin of Change e.g. TU request, change in legislation

## 1 Rationale

Home learning is recognised as an essential part of a child's education by our school community. When planned carefully, it engages families in the learning process and encourages motivation and independence in young people.

At Nova Primary, we have listened to families and teachers and have devised a system which is purposeful and manageable for all.

## 2. Purposes

- To further children's academic progress in all areas
- To give children the opportunity to consolidate and practise what they have learnt at school
- To provide a broad range of home learning opportunities to suit every type of learner
- To engage and involve families in children's learning
- To promote a love of learning and the desire to initiate learning outside the school in a variety of contexts
- To develop oracy skills through opportunities to present homework in school

## 3. Practices – The Takeaway Home Learning Menu

All year groups, including EYFS from Term 2 receive an A3 takeaway menu each term, with a theme relating to the term's curriculum 'Line of Enquiry'. The menu has three sections as follows:

- Starters- requirements for reading, spellings and when age appropriate, times tables work with a frequency rating e.g. read 5 times per week
- Main courses-requirements for weekly tasks to be done in homework books
- Desserts- a selection of practical, creative or research-based tasks from which children must choose **at least one** over the term to share with the class, with a difficulty rating
- Chef's Special- the option for children to innovate by engaging in an activity or learning something that is NOT on the standard menu

Of course we recognise that home learning expectations will need to change as children get older, although the Dessert section is based very much on the interests, needs and learning styles of each group of children.

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Reading-decoding and discussing a book, recorded in reading record</b>	<b>Spelling</b>	<b>Times tables</b>	<b>Weekly 'Main Course' Home Learning</b>
Reception	5x weekly At least 5 mins	Word wallet words Practise at least 4x weekly	Not applicable	Read Write Inc letter sound sheet
Year 1	5x weekly At least 10 mins	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Not applicable	One English or maths task or sheet in homework books
Year 2	5x weekly At least 10-15 mins	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise current table 3x week for 5 minutes	One English or maths task or sheet in homework books
Year 3	5x weekly At least 15 mins	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise current table 3x week for 5 minutes	One English or maths task in homework books or on separate sheet
Year 4	5x weekly At least 15 mins	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise current table 3x week for 5 minutes	One English or maths tasks in homework books or on separate sheet
Year 5	5x weekly At least 20 mins (can be independent for 3 of these)	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Preparation for the 100 club (times tables incentive) 2 or 3x weekly	One English or maths task in homework books or on separate sheet
Year 6	5x weekly At least 20 mins (can be independent)	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Preparation for the 100 club (times tables incentive) 2 or 3x weekly	Two English or maths tasks in homework books or on separate sheet

**ALL WEEKLY 'STARTERS' AND 'MAIN COURSE' TASKS ARE GIVEN ON MONDAY AND NEED TO BE COMPLETED BY FRIDAY.**

#### **4. School Holidays**

At Nova Primary, we recognise that school holidays are sacred and not every family wants lots of tasks to complete. However, some parents and children do request activities. The 'Takeaway Home Learning' is for term time only. During the holidays, children receive the following:

- A Line of Enquiry bubble containing OPTIONAL activities to spark new learning about the next term's topic
- Reading books

In Year 6 there may be additional tasks to prepare for statutory assessments administered in May (SATS).

## 5. Pupils with Special Educational Needs

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

## 6. The Role of Parents and Carers

Parents have been consulted widely in order for this policy to be written. Some parents value home learning more than others, and we acknowledge that it can be tricky for those who work long hours or in larger families. Homework is not a legal requirement and children will not be penalised if they have not completed it. Nevertheless, we encourage parents and carers to do the following:

- Share the termly menu as a family to encourage involvement from siblings, grandparents etc.
- Provide a quiet, comfortable space for children to complete tasks
- Praise and reward effort in home learning
- Commit to making one of the 'Dessert' options a family task
- Ensure **reading** is a **non-negotiable**
- Encourage excellent presentation
- Contact the teacher as soon as possible if you have a query
- Ensure 'Main Course' tasks are brought in on time

## 7. The Role of Teachers

Primarily, teachers are responsible for ensuring home learning is appropriate and interesting for the children. Parents and children appreciate feedback and where deserved praise. Teachers at Nova Primary:

- Encourage, support and reward children with their home learning

- Mark the main course task(s) and write a positive comment, adding a sticker or stamp if extra effort has been made
- Check reading logs weekly, acknowledging verbally those who read regularly and in KS1 ensure children receive badges for the number of books read
- Give children a chance to present their 'Dessert', 'Chef's Special' or holiday home learning to the class and ensure they receive a 'golden ticket'

## **8. Monitoring and Review**

The governors' Standards Committee is responsible for monitoring this policy at appropriate intervals. A review of this programme of home learning will be carried out after it has run for two terms, and thereafter as part of the Autumn term parent questionnaire.