



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	Autumn 2018
Next Review Date	Autumn 2021
* 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
November 2018	Section 3 & through out	Changed concept of ‘takeaway menu’ to ‘Nova Home learning journey’ with daily mission, weekly rockets and termly explorer tasks	Refresh home learning

	Section 2	Section 2 added 'To prepare children with the learning behaviours and attitudes needed for their future education'	
	Section 3	Changed 'times tables' to 'number facts' Adjusted expectations for year groups	In line with reviewed calculation and spelling policies
	Section 7	Removed: 'In KS1 ensure children receive badges for the number of books read' Added: 'receive positive and constructive feedback (verbal or written)' 'Monitor home learning tasks being completed by children' 'Ensure children completing home learning expectations receive a home learning certificate at the end of each term to recognise their efforts'	Clarify expectations

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.

Please read in conjunction with calculation and spelling policies.

2. Purposes

- To further children's academic progress in all areas
- To give children the opportunity to consolidate and practise what they have learned at school
- To provide a broad range of home learning opportunities to suit every 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
- To prepare children with the learning behaviours and attitudes needed for their future education

3. Practices – The Home Learning Journey

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

- Nova Mission essentials- requirements for reading, spellings and maths fluency practice with a frequency rating e.g. read 5 times per week
- Nova Rocket tasks -requirements for weekly tasks to be completed in homework books, usually with a maths or English focus
- Nova Explorer tasks- 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

There is also an 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 'explorer' section is based very much on the interests, needs and learning styles of each group of children.

Year Group	Reading-decoding and discussing a book, recorded in reading record	Spelling	Number facts	Weekly 'Rocket Task' Home Learning
Reception	5x weekly At least 5 mins	Word wallet words Practise at least 4x weekly Sound wallets	Practise counting and number recognition	Termly 'activities' at home to promote parental engagement
Year 1	5x weekly At least 10 mins	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly Word wallets	Practise key number facts	One English, maths or curriculum focused task in homework books or on a separate sheet
Year 2	5x weekly At least 10-15 mins	List sent home Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise key number facts 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	Practise statutory words set <i>by teacher (lists are in Family Reading record)</i> Practise at least 3x a 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	Practise statutory words set <i>by teacher (lists are in Family Reading record)</i> Practise at least 3x a weekly	Practise current table or all mixed tables 3x week for 5 minutes	One English or maths task in homework books or on separate sheet
Year 5	5x weekly At least 20 mins <i>(can be independent for 2 of these – many children will need some support with more challenging vocabulary)</i>	Practise statutory words set <i>by teacher (lists are in Family Reading record)</i> Practise at least 3x a weekly	Practise current table or all mixed tables 3x week for 5 minutes	One English or maths task in homework books or on separate sheet
Year 6	5x weekly At least 20 mins <i>(can be independent for 2 of these – many children will need some support with more challenging vocabulary)</i>	Practise statutory words set <i>by teacher (lists are in Family Reading record)</i> Practise at least 3x a weekly	Practise current table or all mixed tables 3x week for 5 minutes	SATs Revision Workbook tasks set weekly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One grammar task • One maths task Teacher informs children of set task/s on Mondays. Children are encouraged to ask if unsure of content of tasks.

ALL WEEKLY 'MISSION' AND 'ROCKET' TASKS ARE GIVEN ON MONDAY AND NEED TO BE COMPLETED BY FOLLOWING MONDAY.

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 Nova Home Learning Journey 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 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 home learning journey as a family to encourage involvement from siblings, grandparents etc.
- Provide a quiet, comfortable space for children to complete tasks
- Praise and recognise effort in home learning
- Commit to making one of the 'termly explorer' 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 weekly 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
- Ensure children receive positive and constructive feedback (verbal or written) on their weekly 'rocket' task(s), adding a sticker or stamp if extra effort has been made
- Check reading logs weekly, acknowledging verbally those who read regularly
- Give children a chance to share their 'explorer' or holiday home learning to the class
- Monitor home learning tasks being completed by children
- Ensure children completing home learning expectations receive a home learning certificate at the end of each term to recognise their efforts

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.