



# 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 2024
Next Review Date	Autumn 2027
* 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
August 2021	Section 2	Updated purposes of learning to focus more on consolidation of key learning skills.	Following teacher and parent consolation in July 2021. To refine the purpose on key skills.
	Section 3	Removal of reference to 'home learning journey menu' which includes range of daily, weekly and termly tasks. Focus on key skills (reading, spelling and number fluency). Updated table.	Following teacher and parent consolation in July 2021. Change to focus on key skills (reading, spelling and number fluency) rather than wide range of tasks.
	Section 4	Removed reference to home learning journey tasks. Added experiences.	Following teacher and parent consolation in July 2021.
	Section 6 and 7	Updated role of parents and teachers to align with home school agreement.	To align with home school agreement document.
August 2024	Section 3	Updated wording from 'spelling book' to 'home-learning journal'	To align with books being sent home.
August 2024	Section 3	Removal: 'For children in EYFS-Year 2 we provide sound/ word wallets for children to practise key sounds and words at home.'	To align with Little Wandle Phonics
August 2024	Section 3	Added: 'Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 (until Christmas) are taught phonics. Videos for parents and carers are available on our school website showing pronunciations of sounds.'	To align with Little Wandle Phonics
August 2024	Section 3	Added: 'These are available on our school website.'	Clarity to where these documents are.

August 2024	Section 3	<p>Removal: 'We also provide resources and teach children how to play number fact games to help them recall key facts.'</p> <p>Replaced with: 'We teach children to chant their timetables saying the smaller factor first e.g. <math>2 \times 3 = 6</math> would be chanted as 'two threes are six' <math>3 \times 2 = 6</math> would be chanted as 'two threes are six'. <math>6 \div 2 = 3</math> would be chanted as Teacher 'six divided by 2 is', pupils reply 'two threes are six'</p>	Aligned with our whole school approach to teaching fluency.
August 2024	Section 3 Y3,4,5 & 6 Spelling section	Added: .. 'or spelling patterns'.	Following research and Spelling Shed updated regarding Spelling vocabulary.
August 2024	Section 3: Reception, Y1 & Y2	Removed: 'Word wallet words' and added 'Phonics practise set by teachers'.	To align with Little Wandle Phonics
August 2024	Section 3: Y6	Added: 'SATS booklets (maths and SPAG) to complete pages each week.'	Clarity

## 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 with a particular focus on key skills such as reading, spelling and number fluency.
- To engage and involve families in children's learning.
- To prepare children with the learning behaviours and attitudes needed for their future education.

## 3. Practices

- We believe home learning tasks should focus on helping children consolidate their key skills in reading, spelling and maths fluency practice through regular practise at home.
- We provide a range of reading books for all children to take home to read. Children have the opportunity to change their reading books at least 2x weekly. Children reading longer chapter books may change their books less frequently.
- Children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 (until Christmas) are taught phonics. Videos for parents and carers are available on our school website showing pronunciations of sounds.
- Children in Y2-Y6 all have Spelling Shed accounts where they can practise their spellings online. Children are also provided with printed spelling lists and a home-learning journal to practise writing their spellings at home.
- For children in Y2-Y6 we provide digital Times Table Rockstar accounts so that they can practise their fluency skills. We teach children to chant their timetables saying the smaller factor first e.g.

*2 x 3 = 6 would be chanted as 'two threes are six'*

*3 x 2 = 6 would be chanted as 'two threes are six'*

*6 ÷ 2 = 3 would be chanted as Teacher 'six divided by 2 is', pupils reply 'two threes are six'*

- Year 6 pupils are provided with booklets with additional focused SPAG/ number home learning work to complete each week.
- We also provide a suggested optional list of practical, creative or research-based termly tasks linked to our wider curriculum. These are available on our school website. There

is also an option for children to innovate by engaging in an activity or learning something that is not on the standard menu.

Year Group	Reading- <i>decoding and discussing a book, recorded in reading record</i>	Spelling	Number facts
Reception	5x weekly At least 5 mins	Phonics practise set by teachers. Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise counting and number recognition 5x week
Year 1	5x weekly At least 10 mins	Phonics practise set by teachers. Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise key number facts 5x week for 5 minutes
Year 2	5x weekly At least 10-15 mins	Term 1: Phonics practise set by teachers.  Practise at least 4x weekly  From Term 2, Bridge to Spelling words. Practise at least 4x weekly	Practise key number facts Practise current table 5x week for 10 minutes
Year 3	5x weekly At least 15 mins	Practise statutory words or spelling patterns set by teacher.  Practise at least 3x a weekly.	Practise current table 5x week for 10 minutes
Year 4	5x weekly At least 15 mins	Practise statutory words or spelling patterns set by teacher.  Practise at least 3x a weekly.	Practise current table or all mixed tables as preparation for Y4 Multiplication Check. 5x week for 10 minutes
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 or spelling patterns set by teacher.  Practise at least 3x a weekly.	Practise current table or all mixed tables 5x week for 10 minutes
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> )  <i>SATS booklets (maths and SPAG) to complete pages each week.</i>	Practise statutory words or spelling patterns set by teacher.  Practise at least 3x a weekly.	Practise current table or all mixed tables 5x week for 10 minutes

#### 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. During the holidays, we encourage children to continue reading and they also have the option of completing activities from the wider curriculum list. In Year 6, there may be additional tasks to prepare for statutory assessments administered in May (SATS).

We believe children learn from experiences and where possible encourage families to attend day trips, watch documentaries and read books together linked to the curriculum or children's own interests.

#### 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:

- Ensure **reading** is a **non-negotiable**.
- Ensure children regularly practise their **spelling and maths fluency skills** at home.
- Provide a quiet, comfortable space for children to complete tasks.
- Praise and recognise effort in home learning.
- Use your talents and experiences to enhance children's learning at home. Children will benefit greatly from what parents and carers can show them, discuss with them and teach them.
- Contact the teacher as soon as possible if you have a query.

#### 7. **The Role of Teachers**

Primarily, teachers are responsible for ensuring home learning is appropriate and helps children consolidate their key learning skills. Parents and children appreciate feedback and where deserved praise.

Teachers at Nova Primary:

- Provide resources and tasks for children to consolidate and build upon their key reading, spelling and numeracy skills at home.
- Provide information and helpful training sessions for parents and carers to give them confidence to support their child.
- Check reading logs weekly, acknowledging verbally those who read regularly.
- Monitor home learning tasks being completed by children.
- Encourage and support children with their home learning.
- Celebrate children's successes and development, including academic and personal achievements.

## **8. Monitoring and Review**

The governing body 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.