

Will home learning be the same each week ?

It is important to remember that there needs to remain some flexibility in the setting of 'Other Home Learning' so that special events can be made the most of, or projects undertaken. When there is a variation from the normal routine, the details will be in your child's homework book. Where additional home learning in the form of projects for example is given, teachers will make time expectations clear.

Will all of the children be asked to do the same thing?

Classes in the same year group will not always receive the same homework, nor will groups of children. This is so that we can ensure that home learning matches differing abilities and also supports learning taking place in class.

Expectations about when home learning is brought into school will be consistent across each year group as much as is possible.

What do I do if my child struggles with the task set?

Sometimes tasks require more or less time than indicated above. If your child has worked hard and to the best of his/her ability but not completed an activity, please make a note for the teacher in their home learning book.

If your child has needed lots of help to complete a task, let the teacher know, so that additional support can be provided as necessary. We do not want it to be a chore and are happy to see that a child has done their best but that to finish would have taken too long. The emphasis is on how homework helps your child to learn, rather than on whether it takes a certain amount of time.



Home-learning is a partnership between the home and school. The school will ensure that home-learning set is relevant and purposeful.



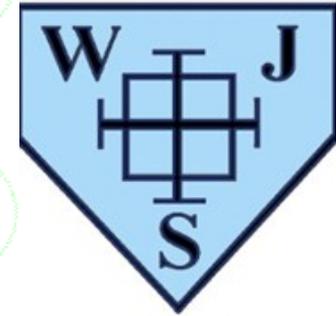
How do I avoid arguments about home learning?

It's important to get the balance right— we all want our children to become responsible, independent learners—but they will need some support and guidance to help them to manage their time effectively in order to achieve this.

Our suggestions:

- ⇒ Remember that we all need a break....a wind down on return from school and time to play are important before beginning home learning.
- ⇒ Have a regular time for home learning, avoiding clashes with favourite tv programmes.
- ⇒ Agree on the best place for activities to be completed—away from distractions and noises.
- ⇒ Make your involvement special and show your enthusiasm for your child's progress and interest in their learning.
- ⇒ Try to be 'around' and supportive, even if your child is working independently.
- ⇒ Create a timetable to help your child to manage their time well.
- ⇒ Encourage your child to find ways answer their own questions and solve problems independently.
- ⇒ Encourage your child to take responsibility for listening carefully to advice and instructions given in class, so that they can extend their learning out of the classroom -making the learning lasting!

Home Learning at Whitchurch CE Junior School



**A guide to help
Parents and Carers
support their child's
learning at home.**

At Whitchurch CE Junior School, we aim to nurture children’s interest in and enjoyment of learning through providing meaningful and purposeful home learning

How long should my child spend on their home learning?

The table below gives a **guide** to the time that we would like the children to spend on their home learning each week:

Year Group	All Years: Daily Reading/Spelling/ Tables/Number bonds (and/or IEP work)	Other Home Learning
Year 3 and 4		20-30 minutes
Year 5		30 – 40 minutes
Year 6		45 minutes

How can I help my child to learn well ?

Tables and Number Bonds/Maths facts

Children should spend a little time working to learn these on a regular/daily basis. The quicker the children’s recall, the better! Ways to help with this learning include the use of ‘Number Gym’ as well as singing or games. Also, when shopping, encourage your child to get involved with using their maths knowledge too.

Learning spellings

Children’s spelling is assessed against their ability to use their spellings correctly when writing on their own, as well as through regular spelling tests, which provide a focus for the children’s practice (a little time each day). The children may also work on activities to build a wider range of vocabulary. All children are expected to learn spellings they are given to learn at home using “Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check” for example. Parents and carers can help children with any spellings they need to learn by helping them to practice and then use them in their writing correctly.

How do I help my child to read at home?

Reading at home is **the most important** home learning a child can do. Reading at home includes:

- A child reading to an adult or older child
- A child reading to a younger brother/sister or other child
- A child reading silently to him/herself.
- Playing reading games
- An adult reading to a child (encouraging the child in following the text), this means that children can enjoy books beyond their current reading level and is a good way to develop their comprehension and confidence.

Remember that sharing and enjoying a good book not only gives children a lot of pleasure, it is a skill for life and helps children’s learning in every subject.

My child reads fluently– do I still need to get involved with their reading?

YES! It remains really important to stay involved with your child’s reading, even if they are a real bookworm from a young age . You can, for example chat to them about what they are reading, their opinions and thoughts on the author– consider other authors they might enjoy. Remember that some children read fluently, but take in what they read– you can really help with this.

For fluent, independent readers, being read to is a real treat, so don’t stop!

What is the Reading Record for?

Your child’s Reading Record helps to form part of the picture we have of your child’s reading development. Your comments in it are valuable to us. Children should have their Reading Record in school every day. As well as seeing comments written by adults in Reading

Records, we like the children to write a brief comment about what they have read/ are reading. This improves their ability to share opinions and make judgments about books. We love to know about all books shared at home.

Children should read for a minimum of ten minutes at home every day, building this length of time as their reading stamina builds (just like an endurance athlete building up their stamina!).

What sort of activities might my child be asked to complete?

Weekly activities might include:

- vocabulary/grammar activities,
- reading comprehension
- mathematical puzzles or problem solving
- practicing calculation methods (It is important that any support you offer children with mathematical calculation supports the methods taught in class-please check our calculation policy if working with your child on this.)

Other home learning:

Not all homework involves a finished product. For example:

- Learning Mathematical vocabulary or Science facts
- Talk home learning
- Preparing for a talk in class or piece of writing
- Researching for a topic– historical dates or geographical facts

Projects and Independent learning:

Children will have additional home-learning from time to time, in the form of a project, or some independent research. This could cover a range of areas including art and music, historical, scientific, geographical or personal and social learning. Details of this will be given in the children’s home learning books, including how long the children have to complete the activity and advice about how it can be presented.

What feedback will my child have about their homework?

It is important that the effort that children have put into their learning at home is acknowledged and recognised.

This happens in a range of ways:

- Often home learning will be marked through the class work it has contributed to, with the marked piece of work being completed in class, (the home learning enhances and raises the child’s achievement). Children who engage with and complete their home-learning will therefore achieve higher standards in class than children who do not complete their home-learning.
- Home learning may be self-checked or shared in class, with children offering feedback to each other– as appropriate.
- On other occasions home learning will be marked and feedback given by the teacher.