Bowmandale Primary School

Straight... True... Successful

School Policy Document for Home Learning

1. Introduction

This policy outlines the school's expectations of the Home Learning that pupils are required to carry out at home. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff. The responsibility for monitoring and review rests with the Headteacher.

2. The Purpose of Home Learning is to:

- To consolidate and to reinforce skills and understanding
- To enable children to undertake pre-learning prior to an upcoming topic
- To enable children to become independent learners who take responsibility for their own learning
- To instil a love of learning
- To provide opportunities for Parents/ Carers, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning
- To extend school learning, e.g. through additional reading at home

3. Our Principles

Helping a child learn at home can and should be a positive experience. The individual attention a Parent/Carer can give, even if only for a short time, can help to motivate your child, further build confidence and self-esteem and help them to progress. An adult's attention, focused on the kind of learning a child does at school also means that the child understands the value that his or her Parents/ Carers put on education. A working partnership between school and home enhances the educational development of the child and so helps raise attainment. We consider any help that Parents/Carers feel able to offer at home as extremely worthwhile.

4. Inclusion and Special Educational Needs

We set homework tasks for all children as a normal part of school life. As an inclusive school, it is our priority to ensure that all children's needs are met. As such, teachers will set activities that are relevant and appropriate to your child's age and stage of development.

5. Organisation of Home Learning

Foundation Stage

With support from their families, the children should complete any home learning activities provided that will always link to learning experiences being offered in the classroom.

In addition to home learning activities, we politely request that children read their reading book **at least 3 times** a week. This should be logged in children's reading records. Please be aware that any home reading books can also be recorded too. School reading books will be changed on a Monday and Friday of each week. Additional reading tasks such as high frequency words or phonics will be sent home to supplement reading when appropriate.

Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2

Class teachers will set weekly homework tasks which are relevant to each child's current curriculum. Tasks will be set on a Friday, with the expectation that children complete these by the Thursday of the following week unless otherwise stated by the class teacher.

In addition to homework tasks, we politely request that children complete each of the following activities on a weekly basis:

- Reading either a school reading book or any other appropriate reading material (a library book, a newspaper or appropriate pages from the internet) at **least 3 times a week;** this should be logged in reading records (stars are awarded for children who read *more than* 3 times per week).
- Practise times tables or number bonds to help with mental mathematics; class teachers will inform families which times tables or number bonds are relevant to each child's year group.

6. The Role of the class teacher is to:

- Set relevant homework tasks on the Friday of each week
- Acknowledge work that is returned by children, praising their efforts and outlining any suggestions for improvement (this can be shared verbally with children)
- Communicate with Parents/Carers of any pupils who are not engaging in homework tasks by offering advice, strategies and support