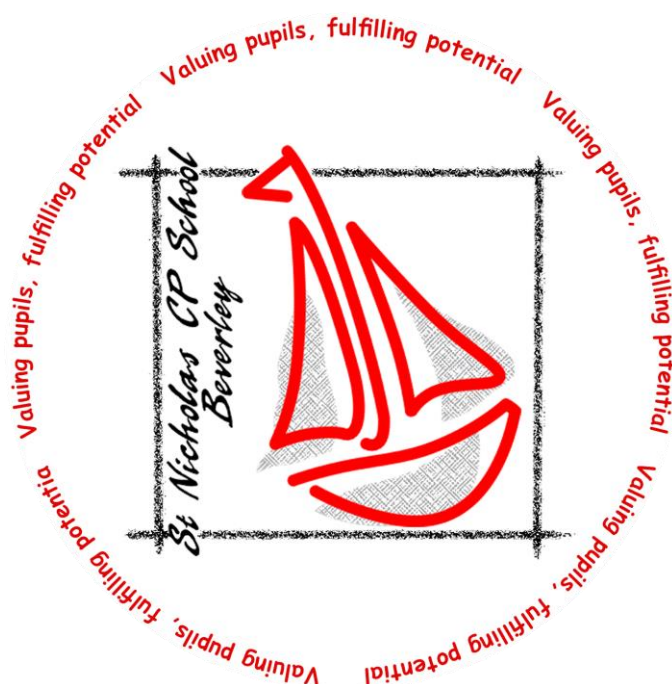


Beverley St Nicholas Community Primary School



Home Learning Policy

February 2020

OUR SCHOOL AIMS ARE:

- To provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment where quality relationships are important and each individual is valued and respected
- To enable everyone to experience success and help pupils develop lively, enquiring, imaginative and creative minds and reach their full potential
- To prepare children for the challenges and opportunities of adulthood in a changing world
- To provide an exciting, broad, balanced and relevant curriculum appropriate for individual needs
- To fulfil potential in all areas of school life
- To work together in partnership with parents so that they are fully informed and involved in their children's education

INCLUSION STATEMENT

Beverley St Nicholas Primary School is committed to creating a school in which the teaching and learning, achievements, attitudes and well-being of every member of the school matter. We seek to create opportunities for all children to achieve their very best in terms of academic and personal attainments. We aim to make the curriculum accessible to all in a stimulating learning environment in which success is celebrated in all areas. We strive to make everyone feel welcome. We endeavour to work with parents and members of the community to create a supportive environment for learning.

The Home Learning Policy has been reviewed following consultation with parents, pupils and staff.

Home learning is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Home learning encompasses a variety of activities planned by teachers and instigated by parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with home learning.

Rationale for Home Learning

Home Learning is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development.

Regular, well-planned home learning can:-

- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development

- Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future
- Encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school as part of our Home/School agreement
- Provide opportunities for individualised work and develop skills of independent learning
- Offer access to resources not found in school (public libraries, local museums etc.)
- Consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work.

Whilst home learning is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in activities outside of school.

What is Home Learning?

We see home learning as encompassing a wide range of possibilities. The following list gives just a few examples:-

- reading with a parent
- a family visit to a local museum
- finishing off work from the class
- undertaking individual research for a project at the local library
- learning number facts (such as times tables)
- English activities (both written and verbal)
- Online activities (Times Table Rockstars, Numbots)

It can be seen from this list that home learning can be a two-way process. Teachers may ask for tasks to be done at home, but are delighted to learn about children's success in other aspects of their lives and will seek to recognise this in school.

What the school will offer

At the start of each school term the school will send out a parent information sheet informing parents about what their children will be learning about in school and how this can be supported at home.

When teachers set home learning they will ensure that:-

- It is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom.
- The task is made clear to children and matched to their abilities, especially for those pupils with special educational needs.
- Time scales for completion and submission are explicit.
- Problems or difficulties encountered by children are dealt with swiftly.
- Regular completion of home learning of a high standard is recognised and celebrated.

Types and amount of home learning

We increase the amount of home learning that we give the children as they move through the school, for example:

- Foundation Stage: daily reading and spellings/phonics
- Years 1 and 2: reading, spellings/phonics, other English and number work.
- Years 3 and 4: reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling and maths
- Years 5 and 6: Regular weekly schedule with emphasis on English and maths.

In addition to this, staff may also request that children take part in research projects based around topics.

Home learning is always acknowledged and marked.

The Role of Parents

Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education and home learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the home learning tasks that are set.

Parents need to discuss with their children the following questions:-

- When is it a good time to do any home learning?
- Where is the best place for home learning to be done?
- What helps concentration?
- How long should my home learning take me?
- Should I ask for help with my home learning, even when it is finishing work started in class?
- Who should I ask for help and how much help should I expect?

It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to home learning and value its importance. It is also important for parents to recognise that it is the children's responsibility to complete the work.

If parents have any problems or questions about home learning, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher.

Inclusion and home learning

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

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the governing body to agree and then monitor the school home learning policy.

The policy is a working document and will be reviewed annually.