



# The Craylands School Home Learning Policy

## **Rationale**

In line with responses from parents/carers and pupils of The Craylands School, the purpose of home learning is to -

- reinforce and consolidate what has been learnt in school
- inform parents/carers of what their child is learning in school
- to help parents/carers understand the attainment of their child
- helps children to understand work better and to improve their learning
- develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school
- extend school learning, for example, through additional reading
- develop Craylearning skills including research, asking questions, extending their own learning
- encourage pupils as they get older to develop confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of the Secondary school

Home learning builds on work done in the classroom and supports learning towards objectives in the national curriculum. It enables the class teacher and the parent to confirm that the child has an understanding of a subject and helps to install and develop a sense of discipline about work at home.

## **Amount of Home Learning**

The following shows what home learning is/will be expected, **in general terms**, across Craylands School as it grows to year 6:

### **Year R**

- Daily reading recorded in reading record book
- Reinforcing letter sounds
- Reading key words
- Sharing library books
- Letter formation
- Counting rhymes and games
- Simple research eg finding toys to support topic

### **Years 1 & 2**

- Daily reading recorded in reading record book
- Weekly spellings (in preparation for test)
- Learning their multiplication tables (in preparation for test)
- SUMDOG

### **Years 3 & 4**

- Daily reading recorded in reading book
- Weekly spellings (in preparation for test)
- Termly spellings
- Learning their multiplication tables (in preparation for test)



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- Termly Homelearning projects
- SUMDOG

## **Years 5 & 6**

- Daily reading recorded in reading book, with book reviews
- Weekly spellings (in preparation for test)
- Termly spellings
- Learning their multiplication tables (in preparation for test)
- Termly Homelearning projects
- SUMDOG

Termly home learning topic based activities may incorporate newspaper reports, art work, baking products, visiting a museum, labelling and making models.

The objective behind these topic pieces of work is: to strengthen the learning links between home and school, to build on what they are learning within school alongside their parent/carers, to allow children to develop the skills of a Craylearner.

There may be times when some children will be asked to complete work begun in class, to ensure that they maintain optimum progress. Any child not completing work to the expectation of the teacher may be asked to finish their work at home. Time spent on this should not exceed 30 minutes.

A child may also be provided with extra work to support their learning in school if they have struggled or they need to be challenged further.

## **The Importance of Daily Reading**

Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

In fact, reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

We would like for children to read every day, however we would expect at least that they read 15 minutes three times per week. Your child will have a school reading book, which they may bring home; the school does not mind if they would rather read books from home.

It is important that parents/carers record when children have read at home in reading records so that we can track which children are reading regularly.

If a child does not read regularly at home, the school will consider finding time during the school day to ensure that they are reading – this may be during their own break time.



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Regular readers will be praised and awarded team points.

## **The Role of the Class Teacher**

- The class teacher will give a presentation and written synopsis to parents within a few weeks of the start of the academic year, to explain the work to be covered, what is expected from the children, the approach to home learning and how parents can support their child.
- Summary information will be provided to parents/carers about what has been learnt during the week.
- A teacher will set home learning with a clear expectation that it will be completed by the set date.
- Home learning projects will focus on a range of subject areas and topics, allowing some opportunity for freedom.
- Weekly assessments will be given on times tables and spellings to check that children have learnt them.
- Teachers will inform parents/carers if they have concerns over whether their child is completing their homelearning.
- Ask children to re-do or re-learn homelearning if it is clear that they have not completed it to a high standard.
- Praise will be given to those children who have clearly completed their homelearning.

## **Role of Pupils**

- To extend their learning by completing the home learning set.
- Not to leave homelearning projects until the last minute but spread the work across the term.
- Tell a teacher if they are struggling with their homelearning.

## **Role of the Parents/Carers**

- To support and encourage their child by giving time and a home environment in which home learning can be done.
- To hear their child read regularly and talk to them about what they are reading. Developing reading skills are crucial. Children need to be heard reading on a regular daily basis and then talk about what they



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have read with an adult.

- Record regularly when children have read in their reading records.
- To show an interest in their child's home learning - children benefit enormously from being able to discuss what they have done with their parents. Constructive comments enable the child to develop a better understanding of the work and reinforce what is taught in school.
- To encourage their child to develop a responsible attitude to their home learning.
- Parents will use summaries provided by teachers to support their children in extending their learning at home.
- Seek help from teachers if their child is struggling with home learning that is set.