



Star Primary School Home Learning Policy

School Mission Statement:

At Star Primary School we believe that everyone is equally loved and accepted.

Acknowledging the diversity of our community, we...

- *Provide a broad and balance curriculum encouraging every child to take the opportunity to achieve their full potential;*
- *Nurture positive home, school and community relationships;*
- *Promote tolerance and respect for all people and the world we live in.*



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Home Learning Policy

Rationale

At Star we aim to provide an exciting, challenging and inspirational curriculum that develops the whole child. We aim to stay well informed on the benefits and effects of the educational approaches we choose to use at school and as a body regularly reflect and evaluate our practice. Due to recent studies on the educational impact of Homework we have decided to review our policy.

We know that for home learning to be effective, the activities must be meaningful, relevant and related to work being studied in the classroom. That it should complement and reinforce classroom learning and provide an opportunity for pupils to be responsible for their own learning. Research shows that homework has the potential to make links between school and students' out-of-school lives and that pupils who have parents that value learning and encourage extra-curricular activities perform better at school.

To reinforce this ethos Star Primary has developed the '**Star Home Learning Project**' which aspires to create a partnership between learning taking place in school and life at home. Each half termly project will enable parents to actively participate as partners with their children in the education process through project based work. The home learning projects have been designed to give pupils the opportunity to choose from a range of tasks on a topic, allowing for pupils personal preferences and skills to take the lead rather than homework being teacher driven. The half termly projects will develop a range of skills and give pupils a creative freedom as they explore themes outside of the classroom.

Aims

As in all areas of school life, it is essential that parents and school are clear about what is to be achieved, and are mutually supportive.

We aim to:

- ★ Encourage a sense of responsibility in children and help them develop a sense of pride in their work
- ★ Reinforce and extend work done at school through projects that encourage parents/guardians to continue to be involved with their child's learning.
- ★ Encourage our families to relate school work to real life, explore our locality and help pupils to discover subjects and skills that they are passionate about.
- ★ Set homework that is suitably differentiated and appropriate to the age of the child
- ★ Help prepare older children, particularly those in Year 6, for life at secondary school

Guidelines

Parents and pupils are advised of Home Learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and in termly Parent Information Meetings. Running alongside the half termly Home learning projects we have invested in E-learning domains that will support all pupils with practising key skills. Whilst it is important that children take increasing responsibility for completing their own work as they move through the school, we encourage parents to view the Home Learning Projects as an opportunity to interact with their children and enjoy learning about a topic together as a family. The half termly 'Star Home Learning Projects' provide suggestions of places to visit and

activities to complete as a family to deepen understanding on a theme. Parents will be informed if children repeatedly do not complete Home Learning Tasks.

How Teachers can help the pupils in their class

There are a number of ways in which teachers can support their pupils when setting Home Learning tasks.

These include:

- ★ Setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work that is appropriate to the pupils' learning needs. Bug Club, Matheletics and reading books are personalised for each pupil and the Home Learning Projects offer a range of activities that pupils can select from.
- ★ Giving pupils enough time to complete home learning, taking into account, home obligations and extracurricular activities
- ★ Assessing Home learning and providing practical feedback and support, for example at the end of the Home learning project pupils work will be showcased in class and reading journals are will have some input from the teacher at least once a week
- ★ Ensuring that parents and caregivers are aware of the School's home learning policy
- ★ Developing strategies to support parents to become active partners in Home learning

How Parents and caregivers can help their children to complete Home Learning Activities

There are a number of ways in which parents can support their children.

These include:

- ★ Supporting Home Learning Projects though visiting places of interest, working as a family to complete tasks set.
- ★ Encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- ★ Observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- ★ Attending school events, displays or productions in which their children are involved
- ★ Encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete home learning
- ★ Setting an example by reading themselves
- ★ Contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with home learning
- ★ Helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing home learning, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities
- ★ Reading books set by class teachers. Discussing their child's response to the texts and making comments regularly in their journals
- ★ Discussing home learning in their first language.

Approaches

We believe that homework:

- ★ Builds on work done in the classroom and may cover any area of the National Curriculum.
- ★ Develops and extends understanding and allows the pupils to develop as independent learners
- ★ Enables the class teacher and the parent to confirm that the child has an understanding of a subject and helps to instil and develop a sense of discipline about work at home.

In order to ensure the above:

- ★ Homework will be provided on a consistent basis, within each year group. Children will be given clear instructions about the amount of time it should take and when it will be handed in. It is important to recognise that the amount of time taken on a piece of homework will vary according to the year group and ability of the child
- ★ At the beginning of each term class teachers will provide the parents/guardians with written details of the work to be covered and homework expectations in a Home Learning letter
- ★ Any pupils who do not have access to the internet or a computer will be offered the use of school computers during the school day or at homework club

Home Learning Activities

To complement the new expectations of the 2014 Curriculum, Home Learning Activities will take a range of forms including:

- ★ reading on a daily basis
- ★ reinforcing acquired skills and knowledge, e.g. spelling words and time tables practise
- ★ online practise of key skills – Bug Club, Mathletics and Abacus
- ★ working on half termly **Home Learning Projects** that relate to the school curriculum

Reading

We aim to promote daily reading at home. Each child has a reading record book which parents are requested to sign. Above all other subjects, reading is a crucial aspect of school work and needs to be encouraged at all times. A child's written skills reflect their attitude to reading. A child who reads widely and with enthusiasm is often able to translate this into written work. It is not always possible for an adult to hear a child read at school every day. It is most important, therefore, for a parent to try to hear their child read as often as possible, to discuss the plot and characterisation and ask the child questions about what has been read.

All pupils from Nursey to Year 6 will bring home every day a reading book and journal. We ask that all pupils read for the minimum of ten minutes every day and that a record of this is kept in their journal. Reading workshops are regularly held to support parents with reading strategies and phonics.

Spellings

To support the teaching of spelling rules and strategies through RWI Spelling in school, pupils from Reception to Year 6 will have a weekly spelling sheet that they will need to practise regularly at home. A weekly spelling test monitors their progress.

Times Tables

Regular time's table tests are given at school to monitor pupil's progress in memorising multiplication facts. To reward pupils who make good progress a bronze, silver, gold and timetable champions badge is rewarded once they have attained their goal. Consistent practise at home supports the work done in school and enables pupil to achieve these awards. Pupils should practise the appropriate multiplication facts for their age frequently at home.

Year 1 pupils	Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Recall and use doubles of all numbers to 10 and corresponding halves
Year 2 pupils	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.
Year 3 pupils	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables.
Year 4, 5 & 6 pupils	Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 × 12.

Online Homework

Pupil access has been purchased to online software that can support learning of key skills and knowledge. Log on details will be shared with pupils at the beginning of the year and regular use of these websites is recommended to supplement work done within school time. All three online sites will give parents an insight into the standard that their children are working at and the topics being covered in class. Pupils will be able to practise their comprehension skills through Bug Club and their maths knowledge on Mathletics and Abacus Learn. Teachers will regularly monitor pupil's progress on these website, use it to inform their teaching and update the activities the children can access.



Home Learning Projects

Star **Home Learning Projects** differ from the regular homework practice detailed above, in that it is project style work to do at home as a family. The project will complement any topic work being carried out in school and is designed to involve the wider family and increase your knowledge, skills and experience of a particular topic. Each half term there will be a new topic (outlined in the table below) which will be shared with pupils through a Home Learning letter. The letter will explain the topic and give pupils the opportunity to choose tasks that they would like to complete, so it can really suit their skills and interests.

Pupils are asked to complete tasks from the following areas:

- ★ **develop your creativity**

These tasks will ask pupils to make something such as a model of a castle or a meal from Mexico. Pupils will be able to use their imagination as well as their art and DT skills.

- ★ **explore your locality**

As a family you can deepen your understanding on a topic by visiting different places related to what you are learning, for example a castle, a restaurant or a museum.

- ★ **explore your mathematical skills**

These tasks ask pupils to apply maths into real life, can you complete a survey or calculate the cost of an excursion

- ★ **extend your research skills**

Pupils can use the internet, the library and other methods to present information they have learnt on a topic in a number of different ways.

Pupils are asked to complete 3 tasks from the Home Learning Project and hand it in on a specific date (at the end of the half term), the projects will be shared with the class and pupils work will be acknowledged through a postcard.

Half Termly Home Learning Projects by Year Group

	AUT 1 Character and Setting	AUT 2 Journalistic Writing Christmas	SPRING 1 Shakespeare (Family Project)	SPRING 2 STEM-Energy (Family Project)	SUMMER 1 Discovery Month	SUMMER 2 River Project (Family Project)
NURSERY	My Family	Creepy Crawlies	Shakespeare	Eureka	The Earth	Get active!
RECEPTION	Dinosaurs	Space	Shakespeare	Eureka	Egypt	Get active!
Year 1	Senses	Shelters	Shakespeare	Eureka	India	Get active!
Year 2	World Around Us	Fire Fire!	Shakespeare	Eureka	Gambia	Get active!
Year 3	The Great Outdoors	Meet the Flintstones	Shakespeare	Eureka	Mexico	Get active!
Year 4	It's Electric	Vicious Vikings	Shakespeare	Eureka	England	Get active!
Year 5	Greece Lightning	Home Front	Shakespeare	Eureka	Out of this World	Get active!
Year 6	Disasters	Order Order!	Shakespeare	Eureka	Revision guides	Get active!

Homework Expectations

We value our home/school links and this is very important where homework is concerned. Parents are requested to support and encourage children by giving time and a suitable home environment in which homework can be done. Children benefit enormously from being able to share their work with their parents. This is not to suggest that the parent should spend time altering or correcting the child's work but rather discuss it and suggest how it might be done differently or improved. Constructive comments enable the child to develop a better understanding of the work and reinforce what is taught in school.

Year Group Expectations:

Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Daily Reading ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and number practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and Timetables practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and Timetables practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and Timetables practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and Timetables practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics

	★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Year 5	★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and Timetables practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects
Year 6	★ Daily Reading ★ Weekly Spellings and Timetables practise ★ Weekly Online Homework – Abacus, Bug Club, Mathletics ★ Weekly SATS practise – pupil's workbooks in reading, grammar and maths is provided. Teachers will inform pupils which pages are to be completed to revise the work completed in school. ★ Half Termly – Star Home Learning Projects

Home Learning at Star

Develop your creativity:

- Plant a seed and watch it grow. Record what you see.
- Make your own scientific model e.g. stethoscope, medical bag, magnifying glass, animal key.
- Create a picture of your favourite living thing.
- Create a piece of art inspired by a famous scientist e.g. painting, collage, model
- Construct a Lego model inspired by science and take a photo of your creation.



This half terms home learning project is:

EUREKA!

HAND IN BY: 13th March, 2017

Explore your mathematical skills:

- Calculate how much it would cost for 2 adults and 2 children to visit the Science Museum on a Saturday travelling from Star Lane
- Write some word problems inspired by a famous scientist – make sure to create an answer sheet for your problems too.
- Data Handling – Create a table, bar graph or pie chart to show the different types and numbers of living things in your garden/park/area.

Explore your locality:

- Visit the Science Museum in London <http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/> Take photos of what you discovered there.
- Visit The Crystal Centre in Canning Town <https://www.thecrystal.org/> Take photos of what you discovered there.
- Visit Newham City Farm <http://www.activenewham.org.uk/newham-city-farm> Take photos of what you discovered there.



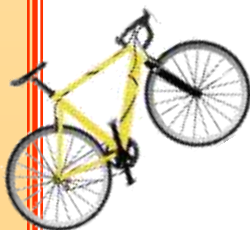
Please complete at least 3 points; you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Extend your research skills:

Choose a scientist to find out more about e.g. Albert Einstein, Marie Curie, Rosalind Franklin, and Jane Goodall then:

- Make an information poster about the scientist
- Use IT to showcase the scientist's greatest achievements (e.g. PowerPoint)
- Create a leaflet that shows how the world has been changed by the work of this scientist

Star Home Learning



Get Out, Get Active!

Active Challenges:

- Design a 15 minute physical activity. Aim to repeat daily. Encourage the whole family to join in!
- Learn a new outdoor game or sport.
- Get on wheels. (Learn to ride a bike, skateboard, scooter or roller skates)
- TV Challenge: Exercise during TV adverts.
- Get wet! Improve your swimming skills. (London Aquatic Centre at Queen Elizabeth Park, Balaam Leisure Centre E13)
- Walk to school.
- Row a boat. Try out <http://www.londonsroyaldocks.com> or boating on the Serpentine at Hyde Park. www.royalparks.org.uk

Be creative:

- Design a health drink. For example; a combination of vegetables and fruit with ice and low-fat yoghurt. Come up with a creative name for this new drink and share the recipe with the class.
- Draw up plans for an outdoor playground.
- Create a cheerleading chant with actions!
- Construct an obstacle course.

Visit and Explore:

- Visit the Queen Elizabeth Park in Stratford.
- Go for a walk in the woods (Epping Forest, Thorndon Country Park)
- Have a family day out at a park you have never visited before.
- See the sights of London by foot. For example; walk from Tower Bridge along Southbank to the London Eye!

Maths Challenge:

- Count your steps. What is your average?
- How many jumps can you do in a minute? Can you improve over a week?
- Time yourself running a circuit of Star Park. Can you beat your time?
- Who is the fastest? Rank your friends and family.

Write About:

- Find out about an Olympian and their sport.
- Design a healthy eating poster.
- Advertise the healthy lunches available at our school.
- Invent a new sport. Write the rules and design the kit!

HAND IN BY: Friday 7th July 2017

Please complete at least 3 points; you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Home Learning at Star



This half terms home learning project is:

OUT OF THIS WORLD!

HAND IN BY: Monday 22nd May 2017

Develop your creativity:

- Design and create the spaceship of the future, suitable for journeys that last for years
- Design a space buggy for a mission to mars
- Research and design an astronaut costume suitable for space travel
- Write a poem entitled 'Blast Off'

Explore your mathematical skills:

- Create a table of the length of days and distances from the sun
- Create a scale model of a planet, explaining what the scale it is i.e. 1:1000
- Research the amounts of food needed for a space mission? How long would it take to travel to each planet from earth?

Explore your locality:

- Research 3 planets and create a list of top 10 fun facts for each.
- Create a poster promoting the positives of space travel. Why is it important?
- Visit the Greenwich observatory. Take some photos of your experiences:
<http://www.rmg.co.uk/royal-observatory>



Please complete at least 3 points; you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Extend your research skills:

- How has Russia contributed to what we know about space and space exploration?
- Write a diary as if you are a Russian space explorer explaining your mission and your experiences
- Research Russia's key successes in the world of space exploration

Star Home Learning



Develop your creativity:

- Create a model of your base camp
- Put together/draw a rucksack of the 10- most important items to take camping
- Design and create a shelter to protect you from the elements
- Create your own 'Andy Goldsworthy' and take a photo of it

This half terms home learning project is:

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

HAND IN BY: 24TH October 2016

Explore your mathematical skills:

- You have £1000 to spend on supplies. How would you spend it? What supplies are vital for our survival?
- Create a table/graph to show temperatures in Epping Forest over a year
- Create a plan and a net of your tent/shelter

Why not explore?

- Visit an outdoor space near you.....take photos, make dens, climb treesBE SAFE
- Go to 'Go Outdoors or Decathlon' Lakeside, and explore the camping section, write a list of the items you find
- Try this Quiz
<http://www.animalplanet.com/tv-shows.i-shouldntbealive/games-more/extreme-survival-quiz.htm>



Please complete at least 3 points; you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Extend your research skills:

- Draw a map of your location (Epping Forest) and label key features that help and to avoid DANGER
- Research different wildlife in Epping Forest. Create a food chain.
- Research the role of trees in the world's eco-system and write a letter to the Prime minister suggesting ways in which we can help save the world's trees.
- Make a survival guide of top tips for camping in a forest.

Develop your creativity:

- Design a Mexican flag with a twist. Explain your changes you have made
- Create a 3D model of your country
- Design your own Mexican restaurant/take-away menu
- Design and make a traditional

Explore your locality:

- Visit your local Mexican restaurants/ take-away. Try some food and write a food review. (Taco Bell, Tortilla, Wahaca -Canary Wharf, Chiquito, Las iguaunas)
- Visit your local supermarket , write a list of foods found in your country. (top tip- look in your world food aisle)
- Look in local newspapers or flyers to see if there are any Mexican events or festivals happening near you.

Home Learning at Star



This half terms home learning project is:



MEXICO

HAND IN BY: Monday 22nd May 2017

Please complete at least 3 points, you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Explore your mathematical skills:

- Design a recipe featuring foods from Mexico for all the members of your family
- Survey your family/friends for their favourite Mexican food. Record your result on a bar chart, picture gram, pie chart
- Calculate the cost of a meal for a family of 4

Extend your research skills:

- Create a fact file about your country
- Create a poster to promote tourism in your country
- Research and create a time line about referring to at least 8 major historical events
- Research the way children live in this Mexican (schooling, homes, hobbies)

Star Home Learning



This half terms home learning project is:

Shakespeare



HAND IN BY: Monday 6th February

Develop your creativity:

- ★ Create a story box on a Shakespeare play. Use an old box to illustrate characters and setting from the play.
- ★ Make a puppet of a character from a play. You could make a puppet using wooden spoons, fabric, card board or paper.
- ★ Create a collage or illustration of a famous person from the Tudor period, Shakespeare himself or Queen Elizabeth 1st.
- ★ Learn a quote or poem by Shakespeare off by heart

'Romeo, Romeo'
'Fire burn and
Cauldron bubble'



Explore your locality:

- ★ Visit Shakespeare's globe
<http://www.shakespearesglobe.com>
- ★ Visit your local library and loan a play by Shakespeare
- ★ Visit historical buildings that were around in Shakespeare's time: The Tower of London, Hampton Court.
<http://www.hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london>
<http://www.hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace>
Take photos to record your trips.

Explore your mathematical skills:

- ★ Plan a day out for a family of four to Hampton Court Palace. How much would it cost to travel there? How much would it cost for entry? How much would you plan your days' timetable?
- ★ Survey your friends and family on their favourite Shakespearean play, record and respond in a bar graph, pictogram or pie chart.
- ★ Calculate how long it would have taken Elizabeth the 1st to travel from Greenwich Palace to Hampton Court by boat. Is it the same today?

Extend your research skills:

- ★ Choose a Tudor King or Queen to find out more about e.g. Henry VIII or Elizabeth the 1st. Make an information poster about them – you could choose to use PowerPoint
- ★ Read a different Shakespeare play to one you are reading at School and write a summary of the plot.
- ★ Create a timeline of William Shakespeare's life, what are the important events?
- ★ Create a menu or a recipe for a meal that Shakespeare would have eaten.

Please complete at least 3 points; you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

This is family project, you can all work together to complete the tasks.

Develop your creativity:

- Create a piece of art commemorating the experience of people living in the East End of London during the Blitz.
- Put together or draw your own evacuee supply- a gas mask, a name tag, a suitcase.
- Draw a public information poster, reminding the citizens of WW2 London about rationing or evacuation.
- Write a poem, expressing the importance of peace, equality and friendship as a part of our special London identity.

Explore your locality:

- Visit the Churchill War Rooms.
<http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/churchill-war-rooms> Create an information leaflet on the place where some very important decisions were made during WW2.
- Visit the HMS Belfast.
<http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/hms-belfast> Take pictures of yourself on board the ship which took part in the D-Day landings.
- Visit the War Memorial in St John's Church Stratford.

Home Learning at Star



This half term's home learning project is:

HOME FRONT

HAND IN BY:



Please complete at least 3 points, you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Explore your mathematical skills:

- Research the different rations of flour, sugar and eggs in Imperial Units and convert them into Metric Units.
- Write some word problems inspired by the experience of schools organising to take their children to the countryside- how many trains would Star Primary need?
- Data Handling – Create a table, bar graph or pie chart to show the numbers of children who were evacuated from different areas during World War Two.

Extend your research skills:

Choose an important figure from World War Two, e.g. Winston Churchill, Eileen Nearne, Henry Johnson:

- Make an information poster about the historical figure
- Use IT to retell the story of their achievements for younger children (e.g. PowerPoint)
- Create a leaflet, booklet or flyer about the historical figure's biography

Develop your creativity:

- Can you build your own coliseum? You could use cardboard, toilet roll holders, plasticine, lego, sugar cubes... anything!
- Create a piece of art inspired by the Odyssey. You could make a collage, a sculpture, a drawing, or even a photomontage.
- Make your own Ancient Greek Theatre Mask.
- Try creating an Ancient Greek Mosaic. You don't need to use tiles, coloured paper would work just as well.

Explore your locality:

- Visit the British Museum in London.
<http://www.britishmuseum.org/> Take photos or make sketches of what you saw there.
- Visit the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London.
<http://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/> Make notes on how the modern Olympics are different to the Ancient Greek Olympics!
- Visit the V&A in London. Try to copy some of the Medieval and Renaissance Art about Ancient Greek Myths. <https://www.vam.ac.uk>

Home Learning at Star



This half terms home learning project is:

GREECE LIGHTNING

HAND IN BY:



Please complete at least 3 points, you can add your own ideas too! Your work may be chosen for display.

Explore your mathematical skills:

- Calculate how much it would cost for 2 adults and 2 children to visit the British Museum on a Saturday travelling from Star Lane
- Write some word problems inspired the Ancient Greeks or the Odyssey – make sure to create an answer sheet for your problems too.
- Data Handling – Create a table, bar graph or pie chart to show the population of different areas of the Ancient Greek Empire.

Extend your research skills:

Choose a different Ancient Greek Myth to find out more about, e.g. Medusa, Persephone, The Minotaur:

- Make an information poster about the character
- Use IT to retell the story for younger children (e.g. PowerPoint)
- Create a storyboard, diary entry or booklet explaining the plot of the myth

By order of the Governing Body of Star Primary School

(Signed)_____Dated _____
(Head Teacher)

(Signed)_____Dated _____
(Governor of Safeguarding Group)

Policy Date: September 2017

Review Date: September 2020