

Yorke Mead Primary School

Home Learning Policy

September 2020



Our School Vision Statement

BRINGING LEARNING to LIFE

We are a school dedicated to creating an environment where children are able to grow into happy, well-rounded individuals with a love of learning through which they can achieve to the best of their abilities.

We want our pupils to enter the wider world as

- o Happy, positive individuals*
- o Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution*
- o Confident, resilient, healthy & life-long learners.*

DARE TO...

D - Determination

A - Ambition

R - Resilience

E – Enjoyment

T - Trust

O - Openness

Purpose

The aim of our home learning policy is to promote learning beyond the school day as an essential part of good education. We believe that home learning not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes that they need for successful lifelong learning. It should support the development of independent learning skills, including the habits of enquiry and investigation, and it should help to foster the role of parents and carers as co-educators of their children. We will make every effort to combat disadvantage, for example by considering the need for after-school study support with access to resources such as ICT and mentoring.

It should be noted that this policy relates to learning that takes place at home whilst children are attending school as normal. Additional comments are contained at the end of the policy for any adaptation that may be necessary as a result of COVID 19 and isolation measures.

Who/what was consulted?

Parents were consulted on the home learning policy through parent questionnaires. Children have also been consulted through assemblies and class discussions. The allocation of time to be spent on home learning at each key stage has been informed by the DfE guidelines.

Relationship to other policies

The policy refers to commitments made in the home-school agreement, and also relates to the curriculum policy, the teaching and learning policy and to the policy for assessment, recording and reporting.

Roles and responsibilities of head teacher, other staff, governors

The **Headteacher** will ensure that home learning is:

- an integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning
- appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- coordinated in order to be manageable for children on a daily basis
- informed by DFE guidance about time commitments.

Teachers will ensure that:

- pupils and parents are given a timetable for home learning at the start of each term
- home learning is set and marked in line with guidance and agreed standards
- tasks are differentiated and well structured
- pupils understand the purpose of the homework tasks
- it is clear to pupils how their home learning consolidates and extends the work they are doing in school.

Pupils will be required to record the home learning tasks or take the information about the tasks home, ensure their understanding of them, and demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time completing the tasks set. They will return their work on time.

Parents will encourage and monitor home learning and inform their child's teacher if an issue arises.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation

Subject leaders will monitor homework by checking planning, pupils' work and home-school diaries. From time to time a random sample of parents and pupils may be approached to discuss home learning by a member of the school leadership team, who will review the effectiveness of this policy. The governing body will receive updates as part of this sampling.

What happens if school has to close or pupils have to self- isolate or shield?

The current situation means that there is always potential that individuals, groups or the whole school may need to self-isolate to support pandemic prevention. Some children may also be required to shield again. This means that we may need to shift our learning from school to home. This would be referred to as 'home schooling' and is different to home learning, which is in addition to attendance at school.

The school is investing in an online learning platform, Microsoft Teams for Education, which will allow children in Key Stage 2 some face to face teaching. If there is a need for whole bubbles or the whole school to isolate or to move to 'home schooling' teachers will facilitate this using a combination of Teams teaching and the home school communication grid that we have developed during the 2020 school lockdown.

If an individual has to self-isolate for a short period the class teacher will send work home to be completed at home. This will be done using the Schoolcomms communication system. As all children are eligible to a Covid 19 test, it should be quickly established whether a child is able to return to school safely.

If a child has to shield, and is unable to attend school for a considerable period of time the school SENDCo will facilitate some face to face learning using Teams supported by a member of the teaching team, which may be a teacher or a member of the school support staff.