



Kirk Langley Church of England Primary School

Home Learning Policy

Kirk Langley is a Church of England Primary School and our family believe that 'Every Child Can Shine.' Our visions and values, built on the living Gospel of Christ within daily life, are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning and provide an environment which prepares our pupils in being respectful, confident, thriving citizens.

Daniel 12:3

'Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.'

We aim to provide a thriving, inspiring and stimulating learning environment where children achieve the very best they are capable of because all the staff value their different learning styles. Kirk Langley Church of England Primary School is committed to Christian values where children, parents/carers and our community know us by our actions.

Within a Christian ethos we aim to:

- Promote a positive attitude to life-long learning, nurturing the development of self-esteem; leading to aspirational, independent learners that are prepared to be challenged and take risks in a diverse and ever changing world.
- Provide the children with valuable experiences and opportunities, through a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum, where learning is purposeful and engaging.
- Use a variety of teaching strategies and resources effectively and creatively; encouraging each child to progress and attain to the highest possible standards, in relation to their age and ability.
- Strongly believe in the partnership of parental involvement in the education of our pupils.

- Demonstrate and foster respect for ourselves and others within the school, local community and the global community.
- Respect the belief of others and celebrate cultural diversity.
- Encourage spiritual and moral values.
- Explicitly promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs through a 'living' curriculum.
- Value each child as an individual within the school and respect personal beliefs.

Home Learning at Kirk Langley Church of England Primary School:

- Home learning is any work, activity or experiences which children are asked to do outside of school time, either on their own or with their parents or carers. Home learning is an essential part of a good education to reinforce learning which has taken place in school and to develop the skills and attitudes of independent study in readiness for lifelong learning.
- If Home Learning is effective, it also opens another channel of home-school communication and greater opportunities for a home-school partnership which is a very important tool for promoting children's learning.
- Our Home Learning policy within our school is seen as part of the overall strategy of raising standards and making the best of children's learning.

The Focus on Essential Skills

- Home learning activities throughout the school have an emphasis upon the basic skills of English and mathematics, primarily focused upon the development of reading, handwriting, spelling and mathematical fluency skills. We will always provide children with Home Learning that builds on prior learning that has been taught within the progressive frameworks.
- We know children in Reception and KS1 will spend about 1 hour per week on developing and consolidating basic skills.
- In Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) we expect children to work on their Home Learning for approximately 20 minutes a school night.
- In Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6) we expect children to be learning beyond the classroom for 30 to 45 minutes depending on age. We recognise effective Transition from Primary to Secondary school and we are asked to build up our Year 6 children's learning habits and attitudes to 60 minutes by the summer term in readiness.

Reading

- The importance of reading at home cannot be over-emphasised and we hope that pupils will read for pleasure in their own time. Reading widely and regularly fuels children's imaginations, develops knowledge and understanding and also models styles of sentence structures and features which children can then use in their own writing.
- All pupils will be provided with a school reading book, matched to their ability, which can be taken home to read with a parent/carer or other adult. As part of our reading drive, we would like pupils to read for at least 5 minutes a day (5 days a week) and for this to be recorded in the reading record by an adult. A reading record is provided for parents to sign and make daily comments in when they have listened to their child read and this will be monitored regularly by the class teacher. In Year 3-6, children also have a Diary to record their reading. We also recognize the older the children, the more they are independent at home with reading and in Year 5 and 6 we ask for a minimum of one signature across the school week.
- In addition, upper school children have reading comprehension learning to complete once a week. This extends their critical thinking, retrieval and inferential skills.
- In addition to being allocated reading books, pupils will also be able to bring home a Library Book to further build our vision of Reading For Pleasure.
- Reading aloud to children of all ages is strongly encouraged as it supports critical thinking and supports imagination.
- **Spelling**
- Every week the pupils will be sent home with spellings to learn, which they will be tested on in class. These may be from the list of most common 200 words, the more challenging words from the National Curriculum or they may be based around a spelling rule the children have learnt about in school. Some children will benefit from using colours in retaining key aspects of spelling patterns and rules.
- We have Class Dojo as a platform to support Home School Learning and Communication. Parents can give Staff feedback and children can seek further support. Upper Key Stage 2 can also speak, via telephone at school, to their staff if they need extra scaffold support (up to 5pm).

Marking and Feedback:

- For written work we also ask our children to use the green pen to correct their work before we go through it together in our Feedback sessions within the classroom. Parents signing a

child's Home Learning has also been a really positive element of our Partnership. Children have told us they feel valued both at Home and School.