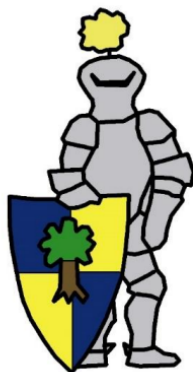


# Knightwood Primary School



## Home Learning Policy

<b>Name of School:</b>	Knightwood Primary
<b>Name of Responsible Manager/Headteacher:</b>	Emma Clark – Headteacher
<b>Date Policy approved and adopted:</b>	September 24
<b>Date Due for review:</b>	September 26

*Our school fosters well being and a sense of belonging within an inclusive, supportive community. We will empower children to understand themselves, others and the wider world enabling them to be successful, confident, emotionally resilient, global citizens.*

At Knightwood Primary School, teaching staff recognise that pupils who have spent a busy structured day at school need time to relax and unwind at the end of the afternoon and have an opportunity to play. We are also mindful of the need to encourage children to pursue out-of-school activities, e.g. swimming, dance, Beavers, Brownies, music lessons etc. We believe that home learning activities should be set but should not promote resentment, friction and conflict.

We value the time children spend with their families, therefore, the school does not believe that home learning should get in the way of pupils' participation in other enriching activities such as sports, hobbies and visits.

As far as practically possible, the school will work with parents and carers to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to participate in such activities.

We feel the right home learning is important at Knightwood for three reasons:

- The power of working together in partnership – parents, children and teachers.
- The importance of developing independence and fluency, in readiness for the next steps of learning.
- The opportunity to consolidate and recall prior knowledge.

We are mindful that tasks may need to be differentiated for children with SEND

### **The power of reading 1:1 with your child – “every day, every night”**

At Knightwood we strongly believe reading is the golden key to all aspects of all education. We see this as a life skill rather than as formal home learning. In our mind, every child should read “every day and every night”. For children to really enjoy and experience books then they really need to hear them clearly read and with voices for characters. Our drive to ensure children experience daily stories and books are inspired by what we know as teachers, parents and carers and by experts such as former children's laureate Michael Morpurgo who says:

*“It is vital that children, young people and all of us have access to stories which give us the knowledge, empathy and understanding we need to negotiate life. But just as importantly, we need to give children and their teachers and parents time to read.”*

	Home learning	Time	Day
<b>Reception</b>	Reading book - Bug Club Online books also set (3 a week)	5-10 minutes per day	Changed weekly on a Friday - given out on a Monday.
<b>Year 1</b>	Reading book - Bug Club (online or paper)	5-10 minutes	Given out/set on a Monday
	Phonics and spellings (eg games on bug club)	5-10 minutes at least 2x a week	Set - Friday
<b>Year 2</b>	Reading book - online books	5-10 minutes	2 weekly on a Monday
	Spellings 5 weekly	5-10 minutes at least 3x a week	Set - Friday
	Times Tables Rockstars (From spring term)	Competitions and challenges set throughout the term. Children are encouraged to practise their timetables whenever possible.	
<b>Years 3, 4 and 5</b>	Reading	5-10 minutes	Every day
	Spelling 6 weekly Google Classroom	5-10 minutes at least 3x a week	Set - Friday tested next Friday
	SPAG.com	This should take no more than 30 minutes each week	Set - Friday Completed - following Friday
	Maths.co.uk		
	TTRockstars	Competitions and challenges set throughout the year. Children are encouraged to practise their timetables whenever possible.	
<b>Year 6</b>	Reading	5-10 minutes	Every day
	Spelling	5-10 minutes at least 3x a week	Set - Friday tested next Friday
	SPAG.com	This should take no more than 30 minutes each week	Set - Friday Completed - following Friday
	Maths.co.uk		
	SATs preparation	Spring term	As needed

## **Homework Design**

SPAG and Maths homework will allow pupils to revisit their learning from that week and prior learning. This retrieval practice is inline with our school's belief that the learning of new concepts is committed to memory through repeated practice. This should ensure that pupils are able to complete their homework independently and ensure they are better prepared for secondary school.

## **What will happen if my child does not complete their home learning?**

Our first step will always be to speak to parents and carers to try and better understand why home learning activities have not been completed. By working together with you, we will endeavour to avoid ever being in a situation where a child does not complete home learning due to any unnecessary barriers. Our ethos is very much about making this work for all stakeholders.

Should we notice a child is not completing their home learning the teacher will ask to talk to you discreetly on the door or over the phone. During this conversation they will help unpick any barriers and potentially offer short term support at one of our home learning clubs.

If, through talking to parents, we ascertain a child is simply refusing to complete their home learning, we may ask the child to spend some of their break or lunch time working alongside a teacher or teaching assistant to help break down future barriers to completing these tasks. If a child persistently does not complete their home learning, they will be referred to a member of SLT in order that further help, and support may be given to the child and or family to facilitate this.

To avoid 'battles' over home learning we recommend:-

- that children should be allowed to work at an appropriate pace;
- acknowledgement should be given to their own interests;
- the task is undertaken at an appropriate time when the child is best able to concentrate (try not to leave it to the last minute);
- your child may need lots of encouragement, praise and even your company and help for certain tasks;
- that learning at home is perceived as a shared activity;
- learning at home should be planned carefully around other interests to avoid clashes; it should not be used as a threat or punishment.