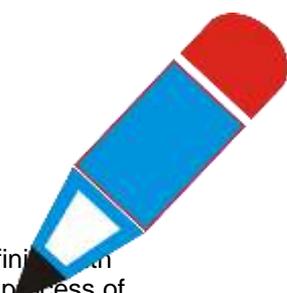
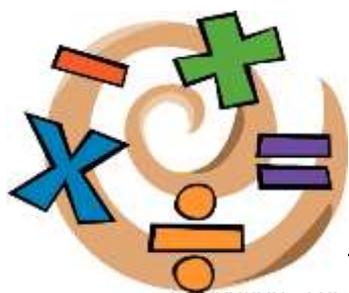


BRAINTCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME LEARNING POLICY

DECEMBER 2017



Education is not a preparation for life, it is life itself. Education is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with an education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning.

Jiddu Krishnamurti

PHILOSOPHY

At Braintcroft Primary School, we aim to provide opportunities for learning at home that are varied, achievable, challenging and stimulating. Home learning will enhance and consolidate the learning of all children and support children's independent learning and thinking skills. We believe that home learning can develop a positive partnership between home and school and should therefore be given value through content, presentation and response.

PRINCIPLES

We therefore intend that:

- Home learning will be given prestige
- Home learning will be differentiated, where appropriate and meet the learning needs of the individual child.
- Children, parents / carers and staff will be clear about the routines, procedures and expectations of home learning set.

- Home learning will provide children with the opportunities to become independent learners and involve written, speaking and research tasks.
- Home learning will be stimulating and varied



PRINCIPLE: Home learning will be given prestige
PROCEDURES: Home learning will be given prestige throughout the whole school. This prestige will be evident through; <p>Marking Children's Home Learning will be marked according to the school's Marking and Feedback Policy and short hand codes used consistently throughout the school.</p> <p>Rewards Rewards such as celebration certificates and individual awards will be given to pupils for producing a high standard of home learning as well as completing the tasks set on time. Additionally children who have included extensions in their home learning will be recognised for their initiative and independence in their learning.</p> <p>Home Learning books/folders All home learning will be sent home in a home learning folder or book. This will be consistent across the year group.</p> <p>Deadlines Children will be given home learning on Friday of every week and will be required to return it on Wednesday of the following week and this deadline must be met to ensure that home learning is checked, marked (if applicable) and sent home for the parents to share and discuss with the children.</p> <p>Monitored return Home learning will be monitored by the teaching staff and a record will be kept of the children who do not return their home learning or who consistently return it late. Teaching staff will discuss any arising issues with the parents/carers.</p>
PRINCIPLE: Home learning will be differentiated, where appropriate and meet the learning needs of the individual child.
PROCEDURES: <p>Links to lessons Home learning will link to lessons taught in class and will be differentiated so that all children can access it. Teachers will explain what the children will need to do beforehand and necessary resources will be given. There will be balance between practical and written tasks set to ensure that all learning styles are included.</p> <p>Use of ICT / web sites</p>

Children will be encouraged to use ICT to develop their competence and enhance the content of their learning. Websites will be given to children to assist them to research as well as practice and consolidate learning.

Groups for spellings / tables etc

Spellings and multiplication tables will be sent home weekly/fortnightly and a quick assessment made to ensure that the children are revising these basic skills.

Range of resources

Resources for particular home learning tasks, which may not be readily available, will be provided by the class teacher. Parents are encouraged to ensure that resources such as pencils, pencil colours are readily available for the children at home.

PRINCIPLE:

Children, parents / carers and staff will be clear about the routines, procedures and expectations of home learning set.

PROCEDURES:

At the beginning of each term the parents/carers will receive a termly letter and curriculum map that outlines the termly learning. Parents/Carers will be invited to a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting at the beginning of the school year where information about home learning procedures, deadlines and expectations for that year group will be shared.

Communication with parents

All procedures for each year group will be outlined in the termly letter and curriculum maps and 'Meet the Teacher Meetings.' Parents will be informed about their child/ren's home learning throughout the year through informal conversations, at parent's meetings as well as through written communication.

Any changes to the content of home learning will be communicated to the parents through the termly letters, and parents are welcome to ask questions or clarification about any home learning set for their child/ren.

Home learning will involve specific cross curricular tasks as well as reading and spelling and multiplication table type activities. Teachers and children will choose reading books to take home every week and these will be changed once finished. Children will also be given a reading log book at the beginning of the year for the parents to write a comment and children in KS2 will be encouraged to write a comment about the book as well.

PRINCIPLE:

Home learning will provide children with the opportunities to become independent learners and involve written, speaking and research tasks.

PROCEDURES:

Range of tasks

Home learning will be given in various mediums such as games and research projects. At times a work sheet with clear learning intentions will be sent to consolidate learning in the class. Some tasks may include a visit to a museum for example and writing a report about the experience. This will help the children to have 'first hand' experiences and enrich their understanding.

Shared activities at home

Through the range of tasks, children will be given opportunities to become independent learners and at times will complete set tasks independently; however there will be times when parents must be actively involved and support their children through the specific tasks set. For example being interviewed by their child about their childhood for 'big talk home learning'.

Big talk activities / games activities

At times children will be given 'Big Talk' home learning to develop speaking and listening skills. The children will be required to talk about a particular subject with their parents or an adult that they know. This may feed back into the class room learning through group presentations, role-play as well as written reports. Big talk tasks are of great importance and must be given prestige as they can have a huge impact on the quality of writing a child produces.

Games will also be sent for home learning to ensure that home learning is fun and to motivate the children.

PRINCIPLE: Home learning will be stimulating and varied
PROCEDURES: Range of tasks, formats, activities Cross curricular (linking core subjects with foundation) Home learning will at times be linked to a foundation subject and children may be required to research and report on specific topics such The Vikings in History or Healthy Eating in Science. The children may then be required to formulate a graph in their Maths using the information they found out about Healthy Eating for example. Meaningful links Home learning will be meaningful to the children and at times it will encourage the children to know about and understand issues arising in current affairs, locally, nationally and globally. The children may be asked to write a debate about a particular topic in the news at that time.
Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles
YEAR GROUP: Please see the appendices for Year Group procedures which reflect the philosophies and principles.

Home learning extends what has been learnt in school and should be seen as a shared and enjoyable experience for learners to share with their parents. We will no longer use the term “homework” and will be sharing this new philosophy and approach with parents at coffee mornings.

POLICY AGREED BY GOVERNORS :

POLICY AGREED & WRITTEN BY STAFF : December 2017

POLICY TO BE REVIEWED : December 2019

Appendices

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Appendix 1

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles					
YEAR GROUP : Early Years					
<u>Organisation</u>					
<u>Nursery:</u> The children will be given topic based home learning which covers all areas of learning in the Early Years Curriculum. The home learning will last for the half term.					
<u>Reception:</u> The children will have a Home Learning Folder, all home learning is placed in this folder.					
<u>Content & Variety</u>					
<u>Reception:</u> Each week we will provide an activity based on the current learning that has taken place.					
Children will be given:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tricky words and handwriting- Phonics home learning- Talk home learning or maths (alternative weeks)					
<u>Revision of basic skills</u>					
Nursery-Reading books (Starts during Autumn Term)					
Reception- Reading books (Starts during Autumn Term). Children will receive two books, a book that matches their reading level, this book will be selected by the class teacher. The children will also select a book from the library, this is a free choice book.					
<u>Prestige in year group</u>					
Home Learning will be celebrated during show and tell sessions. Pupils will also be recognised in affirmation assembly for high quality home learning completed.					
	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
			Home learning collected in.		Home learning given out.

Appendix 2

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles

YEAR GROUP : YEAR 1

Organisation of Home Learning

Year 1 will have a home learning book and home learning will be sent home in it. Once home learning has been returned to school, it will be marked and a comment written about the child's learning will be made. Each teacher will keep a record of home learning in their class.

Content & Variety

Each week, children will take home learning home that will include a piece of English and Mathematics work covered from the week. Each week children will be given a list of spelling words to practise and then be assessed on these during the following week. Creative curriculum research or projects will also be sent home when appropriate. English and Mathematics will directly link to what is being taught in class during the week and will be differentiated as appropriate.

Revision of basic skills

In year 1 there are daily phonics, high frequency words and number revision. Home reading will be sent home every **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Children on a specific reading programme will have their books changed daily. All children are required to have a book bag with them each day.

Prestige in year group

All home learning will be marked following the marking policy. High quality completed home learning will be rewarded with praise, stickers and celebration assembly certificates. Records will be kept of home learning and children will be rewarded for their efforts.

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
		Home learning collected in.		Home learning given out.

Appendix 3

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles

YEAR GROUP: YEAR 2

Organisation

Year 2 will have a home learning book that home learning will be sent home in. Once home learning has been returned to school, it will be marked and a comment written about the child's learning will be made. Each teacher will keep a record of home learning in their class.

Content & Variety

Each week, children will take home an overall sheet which explains their home learning for the week. This will include a piece of English and Mathematics with a reminder or challenge focusing on reading. Creative curriculum research or projects will also be sent home when appropriate. English and Mathematics will directly link to what is being taught in class during the week and will be differentiated as appropriate. In addition to this, children will also take home spelling on a weekly basis with 5 to 10 words to be learnt.

Revision of basic skills

Home learning will be sent home on Fridays and expected back at school by Tuesday the following week. Spellings will be given every week on Friday to be returned on Tuesday. Reading books will be changed twice weekly on a **Tuesday** and a **Thursday**. Children will need to have a reading journal and the expectation is that parents or carers write a brief comment in these.

Prestige in year group

All home learning will be marked in accordance with the school marking policy, and comments made when appropriate. Records will be kept of home learning and children will be rewarded for their efforts. Incomplete home learning will be followed up at school with the expectation that children will complete this during play times.

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
		Home learning collected in.		Home learning sent out.

Appendix 4

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles

YEAR GROUP: YEAR 3

Organisation

Each week the children will be given a set of written instructions and detailed tasks to accompany their home learning. The home learning should be completed and returned to school in their book bag.

Content & Variety

Differentiated Mathematics and English activities, linked to the topics being taught in class, will be sent home weekly. Talking and reading tasks will also be included, with children being encouraged to visit the Active Learn Primary site.

Occasionally children will be asked to complete research work on foundation subjects. This might include written, oral and/or practical tasks.

Revision of basic skills

Between 9 and 15 words for spelling will be sent home each week, in their home learning book. A new list will go home on Friday and be returned on Wednesday for the spelling test. (see Big Spelling policy)

Mathematics home learning will also include revision of numbers facts and times tables.

Prestige in year group

The children will be expected to complete and present their work to the highest standards, taking care of their presentation, handwriting and quality of its content.

Through the celebration assembly award system (certificates) and class rewards, the children will be motivated and encouraged to take ownership of their own learning. Good examples will be displayed in the class and shared in front of the class. All home learning will be marked weekly following the whole school marking and feedback policy.

Records will be kept of all home learning. Failing to return their home learning completed and on time, the children will be given a letter to be sent home.

	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
			Home learning collected in		Home learning sent out

Appendix 5

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles					
YEAR GROUP : YEAR 4					
<u>Organisation of home learning</u>					
Year 4 will use plastic zipped folders.					
<u>Content & Variety of home learning</u>					
- English and spellings will be sent home weekly.					
- Mathematics will be sent home weekly.					
- Creative curriculum work will be sent home where relevant.					
<u>Revision of basic skills</u>					
Spelling words will be sent home each week, in their home learning book. A new list will go home on Friday and be returned on Wednesday for the spelling test. (see Big Spelling policy)					
Mathematics home learning will also include revision of numbers facts and times tables.					
Reading records will be monitored weekly. (It is essential that each child has a red reading book bag with them each day.)					
<u>Prestige in year group</u>					
Home learning records monitored weekly. Participation recorded on a class chart.					
Children acknowledged during Celebration assemblies.					
Home learning goes out on a Friday and is returned on a Wednesday.					
Children who do not return Home Learning will be asked to miss playtime and complete it during this this time.					
	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
			Home learning returned		Home learning sent out

Appendix 6

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles

YEAR GROUP: YEAR 5

Organisation of Home Learning

The Home Learning in year 5 will be sent home in grey, lined A4 books. In addition to this all children will be set learning activities on Mathletics, Bug Club, My Maths and SPaG.com throughout the year, which they can access with their individual login details provided by the class teacher.

Content & Variety of Home Learning

Year 5 children will be given tasks for home learning on Friday and it will be returned on Wednesday. These tasks will comprise of reading, spelling, Maths and on occasion Creative Curriculum work.

Furthermore, short tasks will be given on occasional basis at the discretion of the class teacher. For example; writing a book review and/or pre-reading for upcoming lessons. A home learning club is available for children who need extra support to complete their home learning.

Revision of basic skills

In Year 5 children will practice individual maths passport targets and spellings daily. These will be tested on a weekly basis.

Prestige in year group

Home learning will be given prestige through:

- Phase assembly when the children will share examples of good home learning across the phase.
- Home learning will be marked in accordance with the school marking policy, and comments made when appropriate.
- In Year 5, the class teacher will discuss 'home learning' of the week, where an excellent example of a child's work can be shared with the whole class.
- To encourage a high standard of work, the children will be awarded Dojo Points when they produce exceptional pieces of home learning.

	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
			Home learning collected in		Home learning sent out

Appendix 7

Year Group Procedures reflecting the Philosophy and Principles

YEAR GROUP: YEAR 6

Organisation of Home Learning

The Home Learning in year 6 will be sent home in grey, lined A4 books. In addition to this all children will be set learning activities on Mathletics, Bug Club, My Maths and SPaG.com throughout the year, which they can access with their individual login details provided by the class teacher.

Content & Variety of Home Learning

Year 5 children will be given tasks for home learning on Friday and it will be returned on Wednesday. These tasks will comprise of reading, spelling, Maths and on occasion Creative Curriculum work.

For Year 6, short tasks will also be sent home during the week, in order to prepare the children for their SATs. These tasks may include consolidation work of the learning that has taken place during the day, SPaG work, reading comprehension activities or maths skills.

Parents should note that home learning returned late will not be marked.

Revision of basic skills

In Year 6 children will practice individual maths passport targets and spellings daily. These will be tested on a weekly basis.

Prestige in year group

Home learning will be given prestige through:

- Consistent high expectations by all stake holders i.e. children, parents and year 6 staff.
- Phase assemblies when the children will share examples of good home learning.
- Home learning will be marked in accordance with the school marking policy, and comments made when appropriate.
- In year 6, the class teacher will discuss 'home learning' of the week, where an excellent example of a child's work will be shared with the whole class.
- To encourage a high standard of work, the children will be awarded Dojo Points when they produce exceptional pieces of home learning.

	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI
			Home learning collected in		Home learning sent out