



# BIRCHINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HOME LEARNING POLICY

### Aims

- To teach pupils within a supportive Christian ethos
- To encourage a sense of responsibility in our children and help them develop a sense of pride in their work
- To reinforce and extend learning explored at school
- To enable parents to share in the life of the school
- To help prepare older children for life at secondary school
- To show that learning should be fun and not a burden
- To teach pupils with an understanding and overview of the Every Child Matters agenda

### Approach

At the beginning of every academic year this policy will be shared with parents/carers. If further advice is needed then an appointment needs to be made with the child's class teacher after school or comment made in a child's home/school link book if appropriate.

Teachers will ensure that home learning is collected in and marked on time and an appropriate explanation has been given, so that every child is stretched in their learning but not confused or worried by the task set. Written instructions may be given as a guide for parents to help. At times pupils may peer mark – this marking will be checked by the class teacher.

All teachers will give out home learning on a Friday afternoon. On the Monday of the following week time is put aside by the teacher from 3.30 – 3.50pm for parents/carers to seek guidance, clarification or feedback on tasks set. Home learning is collected in the Friday of that week. We allow some flexibility in the quantity of home learning for a particular child/class and occasionally it may be appropriate for a child to finish a task at home/during their own time so they maintain optimum progress. The time spent on this should be no longer than thirty minutes. In preparation for secondary education Years 5 and 6 pupils may receive home learning at other times.

The activities for home learning during the course of each week are as follows:-

### All Classes

Any holiday home learning will be an open-ended research task, art or craft work, or a competition and is optional.

### Foundation Stage

Reading, repeating nursery rhymes/counting rhymes, counting, reinforcing letter sounds, reading key words, sharing books.

A minimum of 4 sessions per week - approximately 10 – 20 minutes a session

### Years 1 and 2

Repeating nursery rhymes, counting rhymes, spelling activities, Maths, Literacy or Topic activities, multiplication tables and daily reading.

Daily reading 10 mins per day

2/4 sessions per week – 10 -20 minutes per session – increasing throughout the Key Stage

Home learning is given out on Friday and collected the following Friday.

### Years 3 and 4

Reading, spelling activities, tables, Maths, Literacy activities and daily reading. When appropriate home learning is supplemented with topic based work or an extra activity to support their learning.

2/4 sessions per week – up to 20 minutes per session

Home learning is given out on a Friday and collected the following Friday.

## **Years 5 and 6**

Reading, vocabulary work, spelling activities, tables, Maths, Literacy activities, daily reading, plus any other relevant work related to their current or forthcoming studies.

For Classes 5 and 6 – 2/4 sessions per week – up to 30 minutes per session:

Home learning can be flexible but the majority will be given out on a Friday and returned the following Friday.

### **Role of the Parent/Carer**

The parent/carer is expected to support and encourage their child by giving time and an environment in which home learning can be successfully completed. Children in the upper school have their own home learning link books and it is expected that this will encourage the children to develop a sense of responsibility.

It is important that parents/carers discuss a child's work with them, offering constructive comments and encouraging their child by reading to them or listening to them read a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction reading materials. It is also important to discuss the plot and characterisation and ask the child questions about what is being read. Children need to do this on a regular basis and as they grow, older children may also be expected to read independently and silently to themselves.

It is expected that parents/carers will support the school in encouraging their child/ren to develop a responsible attitude to their home learning and ensure that their child/ren hand work in on time.