



## Albert Village Primary School Home learning Policy

### **This document aims to:**

- Identify opportunities for the school, parents and children to work together.
- Ensure that teachers and parents have a clear understanding of what is expected with regard to home learning.
- Improve the quality of the learning experiences which children are offered.
- Extend and support provision for children's learning.
- Help children move towards independence.

### **The purposes of home learning include:**

- Helping to build a partnership between the school and parents and other carers.
- Helping children to consolidate and practise skills and understanding.
- Extending the learning which children do at school.
- Bring learning that happens outside school into school.
- Making the most of all the resources for learning which children have at home.
- Encouraging children, as they get older, to develop the skills needed for studying on their own.

The purposes of home learning change as children get older and some of the things young children are asked to do at home may not always be labelled as "home learning".

As they get older, they will be expected to get into the habit of devoting regular periods of time to working more independently.

### **What sort of home learning will children get?**

We believe that home Learning should promote opportunities for family collaboration.

- We are conscious of the fact that after a day at school, children need time for play and leisure activities. Any home learning should be carefully chosen to support learning through consolidating or developing work done in school.
- Much, but not all, home learning should be related to topic work through literacy and numeracy.
- Regular reading is vital **throughout** primary school. In Years 1 and 2, home learning will consist largely of regular reading at home. Reading practice continues to be essential throughout primary school.
- **All children** should either read to their parents or carers, or, if they are fluent readers, read on their own for at least **15 minutes a day**, and more as they get older. This may be in addition to another home learning activity.

### **How much home learning is expected?**

- The amount of time spent on homework is less important than the **quality of the learning**.
- The amounts of time shown below are for guidance. They indicate approximately how much home learning children might be reasonably expected to do at home. Some tasks will be shorter, sometimes children might spend longer.
- They might not always be given specific home learning, but reading is always necessary!

<b>Years 1 and 2</b> <b>15 minutes on a task,</b> <b>once or twice a week</b>	Topic work through literacy and number activities	Reading with an adult every day
<b>Years 3 and 4</b> <b>20 minutes on a task,</b> <b>normally twice a week</b>	Topic work through literacy and numeracy activities.	Reading every day, often with an adult. Learning spellings weekly. Learning mental maths weekly.
<b>Years 5 and 6</b> <b>30 - 40 minutes on a task,</b> <b>normally twice a week</b>		Reading every day. Learning spellings weekly. Learning mental maths weekly.

### **What can parents do to help?**

- Provide a reasonably peaceful place for children to do their home learning with an adult where needed.
- Make it clear to children that they value home learning.
- Encourage children and give them praise when they complete home learning activities.
- Let the school know if there are any problems or difficulties by writing a note in the learning logs or speaking to the class teacher. If a task takes much longer than the time above, or the child really struggles, it is important that the teacher is made aware.
- Encourage children to do other things after school including organised activities

**We believe that children should do other activities after school.**

**We believe that play and leisure activities are important parts of learning for life.**

**We hope that home learning can fit alongside these activities**

### **PRACTICALITIES**

- All children will receive regular activities to do at home, ranging from reading, spelling, mental maths and words to learn in Reception through to extended tasks in Year 6.
- Children are expected to read regularly, they have a reading diary to record their reading in.
- Home learning is generally Topic based through literacy and numeracy activities. Activities should be varied and avoid repetition.
- Home learning should serve to either practise something done already in class / extend something started in class or draw upon existing skills and/or understanding in a new context. Tasks should appear purposeful.
- It is helpful for parents if there are very clear instructions on an activity to avoid misunderstandings about what is to be done.
- Home learning activities must be appropriately differentiated for different abilities – we will not normally send home whole class activities.
- Children will have a 'Learning Log book' in which home learning activities can be recorded and kept, comments can be made by parents, teachers and children, and details of a new task can be written.
- We will set reasonable expectations regarding standards in home learning activities, accepting that different children will receive different levels of support at home.
- We will encourage all children to do home learning which is given and will keep a record of who returns it. There should be praise for completion of homework rather than punishment for not doing it. If home learning is not done on a regular basis, class teachers should contact parents.
- It is **not** appropriate to keep children in at break times to do homework on a regular basis.
- Children are to be told that quality matters. Therefore, any materials going home from school must be of high quality, there is no reason why activities should be poorly presented or hard to understand.

Agreed by staff ... summer2016

Review ... .....summer 2018