

Home Learning Policy



Our vision: St. Anne's (Stanley) is a school where we put our children, families and community at the heart of everything we do. We provide an outstanding environment in which your child will flourish and grow. We instil a lifelong love of learning through supportive and inspirational teaching. Within our rich, varied curriculum we actively create and inspire a love of reading across the school in order to unlock every child's potential and open up a world of possibilities. Our school will ignite your child's imagination to become unstoppable as they strive to reach their dreams. Confidence, curiosity, independence and resilience are promoted through opportunities to question, challenge and explore. It is our aim for all children to leave St. Anne's as independent, confident learners ready to achieve in a rapidly changing world.

Overview

Home learning is anything children do outside school that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Home learning encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support the children's learning. For example, parents who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with home learning.

Rationale for home learning

Home learning is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. The DfE guidance advise that the key principles for curriculum planning are:

- Education is not optional - all pupils receive a high-quality education that promotes their development and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.
- The curriculum remains broad and ambitious - all pupils continue to be taught a wide range of subjects, maintaining their choice for further study and employment.
- Remote education, where needed, is high quality and aligns as closely as possible with in-school provision - schools and other setting continue to build their capability to educate pupils remotely where this is needed.

We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed, we see home learning as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing home learning is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Home learning plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While home learning is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

If for any reason a child is off school for a period of time or in the event of a school closure, home learning provides support for families to continue with their education so children can still learn at home.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of home learning are:

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- to promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future;
- provide children with an education in the event of a school closure.

Types of home learning

Staff and pupils regard home learning as an integral part of the curriculum - it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning. All staff upload their lessons weekly along with a timetable which includes any dates or times of

live teaching and therefore in the event of a school absence a child can continue their learning from home. When introducing new content, videos may be uploaded or live lessons may be taught using Google Meet and a link will be provided on the Google Classroom. Any live lessons will be highlighted on the timetable that is uploaded at the beginning of the week, where possible staff will not do live lessons at the same time in order to support families with more than one child accessing a device. Live lessons will only be used when there is a lock down as ordinarily, the teacher will be in the classroom.

We set planned and sequenced home learning using email or Google Classroom. In Reception we use 2BuildaProfile (2Simple). In Years 1 - Year 6 we use Google Classroom to support home learning. For all year groups, we also have a range of online learning platforms to support teaching and learning.

Staff give feedback on home learning via email or Google Classroom. Home learning completed well is acknowledged and praised. There may be issues arising from the work, which the teacher will follow up in lesson time or online.

We recognise that children have individual learning styles, which means that some tasks can be completed in a number of different ways, while others demand a particular approach. We therefore provide differentiated activities for those requiring a different level of work. Where needed, parents can also contact school and have paper home learning.

Amount of home learning

Staff upload their lessons throughout the week providing a daily timetable for each day that,, anyone that is off. Staff can also set tasks using the online learning platforms using their own professional judgement and as part of their quality first teaching.

Inclusion and home learning

We set home learning for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting home learning to pupils who are named on the SEN register, we refer to those pupils' 'My Childs Learning Plans'. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our pupils and their families, and we appreciate the enrichment that this brings. For children requiring speech and language or support from an educational physiologist, there is a range of material available on the school

website on the SEND page. Parents can also request a copy of any speech and language programmes that their children have from a speech and language therapist.

The role of parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and home learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the home learning tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary, and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly including our e-library via MyOn and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

If parents have any questions about home learning, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact school via x and their email will be passed onto the relevant member of staff.

In order to support parents using online learning platforms there is a range of appendices to this policy that are user guides to the different platforms we use. We also offer sessions over the academic year for parents to come into school and be shown how to use different platforms by our computing specialist, x or our computing lead, x. In the Autumn term, we will offer webinars on Class Dojo and Google Classroom to support our parents being able to access the online learning platforms which allows us to maintain social distancing. Guides and videos on how to use each learning platform listed below, including Class Dojo and Google Classroom can be found on the school website on the Home Learning page. These are also shared regularly on our school Twitter and Facebook Page.

Use of online learning platforms

The use of ICT and the internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed.

There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning. Our school website provides links to the sites which will best support the children's learning. Parents are advised to always supervise their child accessing the internet and a range of material can be found

on the school website about internet safety. Internet safety is also reinforced in the classroom by teachers throughout the academic year.

Online learning platforms

As a school we have licenses to certain online platforms that we encourage children to access from home. The following online platforms children have their own personal login details for and these are placed in the children reading record at the beginning of the academic year. Staff can view what the children have accessed and use these to set tasks.

Online Platform	Curriculum link	Year groups available for
Oxford Owl: https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/	English	EYFS, KS1 & KS2
Teach Your Monster to Read: https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/	English	EYFS & KS1
Reading Plus: https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/login	English	KS2
My Maths: https://www.mymaths.co.uk/	Mathematics	KS1 & KS2
TT Rock Stars: https://ttrockstars.com/	Mathematics	EYFS, KS1 & KS2
Education City: https://www.educationcity.com/	English Mathematics Science	EYFS, KS1 & KS2
Oak Learning Academy: https://www.thenational.academy/	English Mathematics Science RE History Geography PSHE Music	EYFS, KS1 & KS2

Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the head teacher and the governing body. It will be reviewed within three years, or earlier if necessary.

Created: July 2020 By Julie Simons

Approved: Governing Body

Signed: Julie Simons - Headteacher

Review date: July 2023