



Godalming Junior School

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. If you have any concerns you should contact our Designated Safeguard Leads, Adam Samson, Jonathan Poole or Karen Sutton

HOME LEARNING POLICY

This policy was reviewed: Spring 2021

This policy will be reviewed next: Spring 2023

This policy will be reviewed by: The Learning and Curriculum Committee

At Godalming Junior School we believe that a well organised home learning programme helps children to embed learning, develop skills and attitudes, support the work done within school, and we invite parents to be involved.

Therefore, at Godalming Junior School we aim to:

- Provide clear, well planned, structured tasks that are directly linked to the relevant curriculum schemes of work.
- Ensure that home learning both supports and consolidates the learning experience offered within the school particularly in the areas of English and maths.
- Encourage parents to become involved in their children's learning.
- Support families in extenuating circumstances e.g. single parents

Guidelines for Policy Implementation

In order for the aims of this policy to be successfully implemented the teachers, pupils and parents each have a number of important roles to fulfil.

The policy aims are closely aligned to Teaching Standard 4 Plan and teach well structured lessons by *Planning a wide range of homework, which are highly effective in reinforcing, consolidating and/or extending children's learning. The policy may need to be read alongside the GJS Online Contingency Plan if the learning is to move online in the event of a partial or full lockdown due to COVID. In this event, the delivery of this policy may be put on hold at the discretion of the school*

Role of the Teacher

When providing home learning teachers should ensure:

- It is an integral part of their curriculum.
- There are opportunities for revision, extension, preview and consolidation.
- The pupils are aware of the importance of completing home learning activities to the highest possible standard.
- The children are clear as to the nature of the activity and what it involves.
- That realistic and achievable time constraints have been set.
- That children receive feedback concerning their home learning. This may be either a written or verbal recognition of children's efforts.
- House Points are awarded according to creativity and children whose learning has displayed excellent effort.

Role of the Parents

For parents to actively support this Home Learning policy they should:

- Consider providing a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which your child can do their homework.
- Make it clear to your children that they and you value home learning.
- Encourage your child to complete the activities set and where possible become involved in home learning activities with them. This may involve:

1. Checking that the home learning required is understood.
2. Listening to reading and discussing the text.
3. Checking writing and presentation.
4. Giving guidance when there are problems, but not completing it for them.
5. Directing the child to suitable materials, dictionaries, the library or museum for example.
6. Providing written dialogue about how their child got on with their learning.

Role of the Pupil

When completing home learning activities pupils should ensure that three very important aims are achieved:

1. That they take their home learning seriously and hand it in on time.
2. That they take responsibility for managing their time.
3. That they try their very best

The child also has the option of attending Home Learning club, which may be available during one lunchtime a week in one of the classrooms

Three quite simple but hugely important roles!

Guidelines for Home Learning Content and Time Allocation for all children

As a general guide to home learning you should expect a **weekly** timetable of:

Year 3 & 4	Up to 30 mins Maths	Up to 30 mins English	Each half term there will be a topic based foundation subject activity/project set that requires <u>up to 90 mins to complete</u>
Year 5 & 6	Up to 40 mins Maths	Up to 40 mins English	
Everyone	Children should be expected to read each night and be listened to at least once a week		

Home Learning is not to be viewed or used as a way of attempting to get pupils to catch up with the rest of the class but to reinforce their own learning.

Guidelines for absence and incomplete home learning

- If a pupil does not complete their home learning on time the teacher will speak to the child and allow one extra day for completion. If this occurs regularly then a phone call home will be made. However, in Year 6 in order to prepare the children for transition to secondary school the following applies:
The child may be required to complete their Home Learning during break time and the remaining Home Learning is completed at home that evening for the following day.
- The school is not obligated to set Home Learning for children who are absent from school for any sickness. The school takes the view that if the child is too ill for school then they are not expected to complete Home Learning that is set to the class. There may be exceptional circumstances where work is sent home but this is on the teachers' discretion.

It is expected that home learning is completed regularly and handed in on time, however, we will endeavour to support families where this seems difficult to help ensure that the child completes the learning required and makes good progress.