



# Learning at Home

The approach to homework is in three layers: Core Learning, Optional tasks and Extended Opportunities.

## Home Reading Records

A vital part of the core homework activities is reading and the school advises that every child should be practising reading most evenings. Of course for our youngest children who have not yet learnt to read the words for themselves, sharing and enjoying books with their parents and families is the most appropriate way to develop a love of reading. For those who are going through the stages of learning to read the words and those who are fluent and highly skilled readers, a little practise every day, supported or overseen by parents is more appropriate. We are aware that there are significant numbers of children who are not regularly reading at home and we would like to reiterate that it is vitally important that children do this. The school provides suitable reading material, appropriate to the child's stage of development and interests, for reading at home. The use of school reading bags, to keep books in good condition and for transportation, is expected from years R – 6.

Teachers keep copious records of children's progress during daily guided and independent reading sessions at school and to further aid the monitoring of their reading development, each child has a Home Reading Record book for parents to contribute to. Your child will bring home their Reading Record book each day and it will be checked daily by teachers. We ask you please to add comments about your child's reading: how well they tackled the text, whether or not they enjoyed it and why, details of discussions you have had about the text, any particular words or parts of the text that were tricky etc.

Please could you or your child (whichever is more appropriate) write the date and name of the book brought home. We do appreciate that not every parent can contribute in detail every day and also that sometimes children are tired or have other after school activities and it is not appropriate for reading to happen that night. Reading is a vital life skill and, equally importantly, hugely enjoyable and should not be viewed by children or parents as a chore; however some indication by (a signature is adequate) that you have seen or supported your child with reading most nights would be appreciated. If your child is reading something in addition to school books it would be useful to know this too. The teachers will sign the reading records, sometimes respond with a brief message to you, and will of course continue to give you detailed feedback on your child's progress at parent consultations. We view the reading record as a way of further strengthening the school/parent partnership and communication that is so important for your child's success in education.