



## Home Learning Policy

At Sharow CE Primary School, we believe in encouraging our children to be lifelong learners – we hope to build on children's interests and enthusiasm by making learning fun. Learning should be relevant and engaging, wherever it takes place – in school, on the sports pitch or in the home.

Our approach to home learning is a flexible one. Some children love learning at home but for some, the pressure of completing homework tasks can be a challenge – for both adult and child. In these cases, homework can be counterproductive; children can begin to see learning as a chore and parents or carers begin to dread the weekly ritual.

We do not wish to compromise family life; time spent each day as a family can be limited, we must value every minute. We encourage unstructured play and family time at home, as well as time to focus on hobbies and personal passions and interests—activities proven to support holistic development.

We also recognise the finding of research conducted by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) who have discovered that 'Overall, homework in primary schools does not appear to lead to large increases in learning.'

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/resources/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework-primary/>

However, there are some good reasons why primary schools set homework tasks:

- To engage parents and support them to understand what is being taught in the classroom.
- To reinforce the partnership between home and school.
- To allow pupils to consolidate what is being taught in class and to provide revision opportunities.
- To allow pupils to learn in a more unstructured setting, encouraging them to be independent and follow their own lines of enquiry.

Teachers at our school are mindful of all of the above.

We most definitely encourage our parents to set aside some time each day to read with their child – either listening to their child, reading to their child or maybe a bit of both. [How to support your child's reading at home - BBC Bitesize](#)

**KS1 Reading:** Our reading routine will continue to follow our Little Wandle phonics scheme. Children will bring home their *learning to read book* that they have read with an adult already. Children should be able to fluently read these books with little support. For more information regarding our new reading routine please watch the following video presentation which can give further explanation and clarity:

<https://sharownyorkssch.sharepoint.com/sites/Curriculum/Shared%20Documen...>



Children will also bring home a *share book* which should be read to your child by a parent/carer. This may be as a bedtime story and allows children to have lots of exposure to modelling of tone, intonation, expression etc.

Reading records are to be used by adults or older siblings; to comment in and record their reading at home.

**KS2 Reading:** As in KS1, having stories read aloud to them should continue, further developing tone, intonation and expression as the text becomes more complex. Exposure of and discussion around word meaning, inferred messages and news and magazine articles is beneficial.

Reading records are to be used by adults and children; to comment in and record their reading at home.

We also recommend that learning key skills – such as wider reading, spelling or learning times tables is, again, time well spent at home. Children may not feel as pressured and may use games or digital resources to engage them further. Playing board games, talking about the news or reading magazines are also valuable activities to engage children and promote independence.

In partnership with parents and carers, and where appropriate, some children may be offered home learning activities to help them consolidate their understanding and make continued progress.

For those who wish to extend school learning at home:

- Find out what your child is learning by looking at the termly overview on their class page on the school website. [Sharow CofE Primary School and Nursery](#)
- Visit the library to research a topic or explore wider reading. (Take part in the summer reading challenge.)
- Agree together projects to support an area of study that allow your child to follow their own line of enquiry or choice of presentation: a model, a poem, a PowerPoint, a poster.
- Reading, reading, reading...

We understand that whatever the task, some children love working on their own, completely independent of adult help, and some children prefer to work with support – even if it's just to motivate and keep on track. Either is fine – we want your child to feel comfortable in what they do.



## **Celebrating Home Learning**

Although home learning is optional, we know that many children enjoy exploring their interests and showing what they've learned in their own time.

If your child has created something they're proud of—like a model, a piece of writing, a list of times tables, a drawing, or even a digital project—they are invited to bring it in to share with their teacher and class. We'll always make time to celebrate their efforts.

Here are some of the ways we might share home learning in school:

- Show and tell in class
- Displays in the classroom or around school
- Presentations to the class or small groups
- Sharing digital work—you can email it to the school office at [admin@sharow.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sharow.n-yorks.sch.uk) and we'll pass it on to the class teacher

We believe that celebrating home learning helps children feel proud, builds confidence, and shows that learning can happen anywhere!