

West Exmoor Federation



Home Learning Policy

Updated in July 2026

West Exmoor Federation - A Policy for Home Learning

Rationale

Home learning can support and reinforce the learning which is being carried out in school and can provide a means where parents/carers can take an active part in their child's learning, thus enhancing links between home and school.

Aims and Objectives

To support, reinforce and enhance the learning undertaken in school.

To give children additional supervised time during which they can practise independent learning skills.

To enable parents/carers to participate in their children's learning.

To give parents/carers an insight into the curriculum.

To create a disciplined approach to home learning as a preparation for secondary school.

To enhance school standards of achievement.

Daily Reading

For all of our Early Years and Key Stage One children, this is the only homework that will be set. The most valuable home learning a parent/carer can carry out with their child is to hear them read regularly and to share books with them in a positive and constructive way. Helping a child to read and to develop a love of books is one of the most important and influential factors in children's educational development. It is recommended that children spend at least 10 minutes a day either reading with or to their parents or carers.

Key Stage Two Tasks

In addition to reading, theme related tasks will be set for all children in Key Stage Two. These tasks will relate to current learning within school and will often be of a practical nature. Additionally, all pupils will have personal log-ins to Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rock Stars should they wish to access them at home. If required, Chromebooks will be loaned to all children who do not have suitable devices at home to access these programmes. Year 6 may be given additional home learning activities to support their preparation for SATs and transition on to secondary school.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Consideration will be given to the varying abilities of children with Special Needs and/or Disabilities. Where normal home learning activities are considered inappropriate, other activities will be offered in consultation with parents/carers.

General Advice

Good primary school practice requires that we give credence to other developmental needs of the child. Within the federation we appreciate the value of extra-curricular activities, (sport, music, dance, drama, the uniformed groups, other hobbies etc.) A well balanced, healthy child should be encouraged to develop their particular interests in a range of these activities in their own time.

Care must be taken by parents/carers to gently encourage, rather than pressurise, their children to undertake home learning - we want children to enjoy their learning!

There are many ways of supporting set home learning tasks and also other ways in which a parents/carers can assist their child with learning at home. For example:

Talking about the world around your child;

Sharing books with your child - visiting libraries, providing them with varied and interesting range of reading material i.e. magazines, etc;

Encouraging your child to watch educational T.V. programs, especially when connected with a topic being learned about in school;

Taking your child on visits of educational interest during a family holiday;

Allowing your child to help with shopping and calculating overall costs;

Giving your child access to carefully controlled and monitored ICT;

Encouraging your child to take up an outside hobby/interest;

Taking your child to music shows and interesting films;

Going on family walks;

Cooking and sharing meals as a family.

Most importantly, talking to and reading with your child will enable them to become knowledgeable and curious young people which, in turn, will set them in good stead to become life-long learners.

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