



# Supporting Home Learning - Policy and Ideas for Parents and Carers



Government guidelines on Home Learning give a broad indication of the amount of time pupils might reasonably be expected to spend on homework. The guidelines emphasize the importance of Home Learning and how it helps children to learn, rather than focusing on whether it takes a certain amount of time. The guidelines for primary school children are:

- Years 1 and 2: 1 hour per week
- Years 3 and 4: 1.5 hours per week
- Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes per day

Home Learning activities in St Bernadette's will be related to work that children are doing in school as follows:

## **Years 1 and 2:**

- 10 -15 minutes reading with an adult at least 3 times a week but, preferably, daily
- Directed activities to practise mathematical skills
- Spellings - KS1 High Frequency Words
- Phonics practise using links on our Fronter or web pages
- PSHE family learning 4-6 times a term.

In the Spring term in Year 2 a pink Learning Log is introduced to encourage children to engage in other subjects and activities. This prepares them well for Year 3.

**Years 3 and 4:** Pink Learning Log book is provided for some activities. This should be signed by a parent when the activity is completed.

- 10-15 minutes reading with an adult at least 3 times a week but, preferably, daily
- Directed activities to practise mathematical skills
- Spellings - 300 most frequently used words; words and activities from KS2 Spelling Bank
- PSHE family learning 4-6 times a term.
- Another activity linked to learning in the classroom; topic or science work and talk homework

**Years 5 and 6:** Pink Learning Log book is provided for some activities. This should be signed by a parent when the activity is completed.

- 10-15 minutes reading with an adult at least 3 times a week however, if independently reading an extended time allocated to read with adult support by asking questions and developing comprehension.
- Directed activities for Maths to practise mathematical skills
- Spellings - 300 most frequently used words; words and activities from KS2 Spelling Bank
- Maths or English activity work and talk homework
- Another activity linked to learning in the classroom, for example topic.

## Top tips for supporting your child:



Parental support is essential. As a parent, you have tremendous power to strengthen your child's confidence - and confidence is vital to learning. Help can be given in a variety of ways:

- Provide specific praise that focuses on a particular aspect of their work. Comments such as, "I like the way you have..." is more effective than "You're clever!"
- Read to, and with, your child as much as possible.
- Spend time speaking with and listening to your child - really listen!
- If your child is learning to read please use letter sounds when helping them to sound a word. Go to our website to hear how to say initial sounds.  
[http://www.stbernadettesschool.com/read\\_write\\_inc.htm](http://www.stbernadettesschool.com/read_write_inc.htm)
- Encourage your child to observe and talk about the surroundings eg point out signs and notices to young children and explain what they mean.
- Visit museums and places that you think your child might find interesting.
- If your child likes watching television, watch it with him/her sometimes and encourage your child to talk about what s/he has seen.
- Try to set time aside to do Home Learning activities with your child. (Now turn off the television or play station)
- Wherever possible, try to provide a reasonably quiet place for children to undertake the Home Learning activities.
- Encourage your child to discuss Home Learning with you and ensure that the work is brought back into school on time.
- Be patient and give your child confidence through lots of praise and encouragement.

