



Iver Heath Junior School

Home Learning Policy

We are **ACHIEVERS!**

We are a **COMMUNITY!**

We are **PROUD!**

We are **INCLUSIVE!**

Rationale

This policy has been prepared with regard to the following:

1. Research from the Education Endowment Foundation which says:

‘Overall, homework in primary schools does not appear to lead to large increases in learning.’

Further information regarding this research can be found at:

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/pdf/generate/?u=https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/pdf/toolkit/?id=132&t=Teaching%20and%20Learning%20Toolkit&e=132&s=>

2. On the launch of the Workload Reduction Taskforce on 16th January 2023, the Department for Education stated:

‘We want to make sure that teaching is an attractive career choice, which is why we’re committed to tackling unnecessary workload for teachers and leaders. Our ambition is to reduce working hours by five hours per week within three years and to support this, we’ve launched the Workload Reduction Taskforce.

The Taskforce will make recommendations to help teachers focus on activities that provide the biggest impact on pupil outcomes.’

Aims

As a result, home learning at Iver Heath Junior School will have the following aims:

- Allow children to practice skills and behaviours where sufficient time cannot be dedicated to this within the school day.
- To consolidate learning and meet learning objectives.
- Involve parents in the learning process of their child/children.
- Create a manageable workload for teachers, where their efforts add value to outcomes for children.

Content

Home Learning at Iver Heath Junior School consists of three integral skills, which need to be practiced and consolidated at home to ensure that classroom learning is maximized. It is not designed to add to the school day or the pressures of learning. Should parents feel that their children would benefit from extra learning, after the school day is finished then please see the links to resources on our school website. If learners would like to share these learning tasks with their children, they are invited to bring them in to school where the class teacher will provide verbal feedback for the learner. Class teachers will not be expected to give any written feedback, only verbal praise for what has been completed and encouragement.

1. Daily reading: It is expected that all children will spend at least 10 minutes reading and discussing their home reading book. It will be accompanied with a reading log which should be annotated by the listener each day. Once the book is completed, instead of reading time, the learner should complete a Learning Journey Book Review, where they record their understanding of and thoughts about the book they have just read. This must be completed in full, in detail and using the VIPERS skills taught during Guided Reading sessions at school every day. Once this has been reviewed by the class teacher, the learner will either be able to change their reading book for another or to further complete their Learning Journey.
2. Spelling: Learners will be given weekly spellings that are directly linked to the English lessons they are learning that week. These will be tested weekly, please see individual Welcome Meeting presentations on the school website for the day that these will take place.
3. Learning of essential Maths facts: The instant recall of number facts, including times tables, is a key mathematical skill. To help children to learn their number facts, the school uses the websites Numbots and Times Tables Rock Stars. All children have login details for the website appropriate to them and should use this to learn and practice these skills at home.
4. There may be the occasional time when the class teacher feels that specific children may benefit from some extra practice at home, just to consolidate their great learning in class, and therefore may set an extra task.
5. There may be the occasional time when the class teacher feels that learners would benefit from completing some independent research into a particular topic and therefore set a research task for the learners to complete at home.