



Home Learning Protocol

At The Parkland Federation, we strive for excellence in all that we do while promoting optimum health, happiness and wellbeing within our school community. Learning is exciting, inclusive, dynamic and challenging. The highest standards of behaviour are promoted at all times. Here, the children are supported to succeed through taking risks and learning from mistakes. Pupils are prepared to become responsible, informed, respectful and creative global citizens who will contribute with insight, understanding, and compassion to the diverse and rapidly changing world they live in". (*School Vision Statement updated September 2021*).

Approval Date	Policy Reviewer	Title	Chair of Governors
December 2024	Ms Sally Simpson	Headteacher	Jolly Pett

THE PARKLAND FEDERATION HOME LEARNING POLICY

Aims

The Parkland Federation aims to ensure that children develop to be curious learners with a thirst for new knowledge and a lifelong love of learning. The links between home and school are vital and by working together, we can ensure that each child receives the best possible education. Our curriculum is available to view on our school website if you would like details of what is studied in each year group. Please use this link: [The Parkland Curriculum](#)

We want children to develop strong home learning habits that will support them on their educational journey through the primary stage of their schooling through to secondary school and beyond. Our passion for education means we truly believe that learning never stops and many of our staff undertake further qualifications such as PGCEs, NPQs and Master's degrees in order to extend their own learning.

This policy sets out our expectations for **home learning** and the role that you can play in taking learning beyond the classroom. Through home learning, pupils will:

- o Be encouraged to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study
- o Develop independence and a sense of responsibility around their own learning
- o Have opportunities to study in depth areas that are of interest to them
- o Develop research skills
- o Share and celebrate their learning with their parents and wider family

Homework also allows teachers to see areas that children are confident at working with independently and to consolidate learning from the classroom

Homework in EYFS

When children start school, EYFS teachers will ensure a book/s is sent home for you to read to/with your child daily. This should be read several times in order to consolidate learning. As well as this, each Friday, teachers will let you know the number of the week and provide a maths game based around the skill being learnt in class. There will also be some work on Education City, set each Friday. Teachers will also send out an Activity Grid during the Easter, Christmas and Summer break with ideas to support home learning and skill development. This will usually be set via our online learning Platform for EYFS - Tapestry. <https://tapestryjournal.com/> Please model language to your child at every opportunity. You may find this short video useful [link here](#).

THE PARKLAND FEDERATION HOME LEARNING POLICY

Homework for Year 1 - 6

Your child will receive home learning each week. The purposes of home learning change as children move through the school. For children at Parkland Infant School, developing a partnership with parents and involving them in their children’s education is a priority. For pupils in KS2, consolidation of key skills and preparation for secondary school is key. Children in Year 6 may also be given revision to support them leading up to the statutory end of Key Stage 2 Assessments in May.

	Daily reading at home (15 minutes each day)	Fluency Reading on Google Classroom (15 minutes weekly)	Times Tables Rock Stars (at least 3 x weekly in Years 2 and 3. Daily in Year 4, 5, 6)	Education City (at least twice weekly)	NUMBOTS (at least 15 minutes 3 x weekly)	MyMaths (Task set each Friday for completion the following Friday)	Method Maths (Daily)	Spelling/ Phonics (at least 10 minutes daily)	Optional Termly Creative Project (Please see Learning Overviews)
EYFS	✓			✓				✓	✓
Year 1	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓
Year 2	✓		✓		✓			✓	✓
Year 3	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
Year 4	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
Year 5	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Year 6	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓

Daily Reading

At Parkland, we are a **‘book happy, text rich school’ (Ofsted 2021)**. We expect children to read at home **every day** from the moment they start in EYFS up to and beyond Year 6. This should be an enjoyable part of learning and it is well documented that exposure to stories and books supports academic development in all areas. We visit the local library in EYFS and ensure that all pupils are members in order to open up a whole new world of stories and possibilities. Their new

THE PARKLAND FEDERATION HOME LEARNING POLICY

membership cards will come home with them, so do make good use of this valuable resource. A link to opening times can be found here: [Hampden Park Library Information](#)

We believe that reading to and with your child is one of the most important things that you can do. This is because:

- ★ Reading aloud helps children develop positive associations with books and reading
- ★ The nurturing and one-on-one attention from parents during reading aloud encourages children to form a positive association with books and reading later in life
- ★ Reading aloud is a proven technique to help children cope during times of stress
- ★ Research states that reading to children has such a huge impact on their academic success that parents should do it from birth
- ★ Story time routines benefit even the youngest children, helping them to build vocabulary and communication skills critical to later success in school. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, **reading for pleasure is 'more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.'** (Department for Education)

The Parkland Online Storytime Corner

Please use the link below to find Parkland staff reading stories for you to enjoy at home: <https://www.theparklandfederation.com/storytime-corner> This can be utilised at bedtime, when travelling or *whenever* your child would like to be read to.

What difference can I make as a parent?

Parents are the most important role models and educators in a child's life – and it's never too early (or too late!) to start reading together. Even before they're born, babies learn to recognise their parents' voices. Reading to your baby from birth, even for just a few minutes a day, gives them the comfort of hearing your voice and increases their exposure to language.

Building vocabulary and understanding

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out what's printed on the page. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a wide range of words. This helps

THE PARKLAND FEDERATION HOME LEARNING POLICY

virtually. From Year 3 onwards, teachers will post a reading Fluency Text each Friday. Fluent readers are those who are no longer 'decoding' each word they encounter. They have developed the knowledge and skills to recognise words automatically, accurately and quickly. This means that the reader can focus on the higher-order reading goals such as comprehension and expression. For a fluent reader, 'multiple tasks are being performed at the same time, such as decoding the words, comprehending the information, relating the information to prior knowledge of the subject matter, making inferences, and evaluating the information's usefulness to them.' The reading activities posted on the Google Classroom will support this skill.

Times Tables Rock Stars

This online platform is hugely popular with children and Years 2 – 6 have a personal login for the website. Here, they can practise their multiplication skills in a fun and entertaining way as well as compete against friends and other children all over the world. We are proud to have several TT Rockstar Global Champions amongst Parkland Pupils – past and present! Children can use this platform as often as they like but ideally at least three times weekly in Years 2 and 3 and daily in Years 4, 5 and 6. <https://trockstars.com/>

NumBots

Years 1 & 2 can work through the different stages of NumBots to develop key mathematical skills and to develop rapid recall and proficiency. Once your child shows a good understanding of the concept, they will earn stars and will 'unlock' new levels and challenges.

<https://numbots.com/families/>

Education City

EYFS & Year 1 have access to a wide variety of educational games and activities on Education City to support learning that has taken place in the classroom in English, maths and science.

<https://go.educationcity.com/>

MyMaths

MyMaths is an interactive online teaching and homework subscription website for Year 3 and Year 4 that builds pupil engagement and consolidates maths knowledge learned in the classroom.

<https://www.mymaths.co.uk/primary.html>

THE PARKLAND FEDERATION HOME LEARNING POLICY

MethodMaths

MethodMaths builds confidence by posing key questions and prompts to encourage good mathematical thinking. This is for pupils in Years 5 and 6 and supports SATs preparation.

<https://www.methodmaths.com/login.html>

Holiday Homework

Your class teacher will set some additional homework for children during the Summer, Easter and Christmas holiday. This will generally be revision activities in a grid format to help build core skills in reading, writing and maths as well as some creative activities. You will continue to have access to all of the online learning platforms throughout the holidays. Don't forget to visit the local library during the breaks!

Termly Creative Project

We aim to prepare pupils for the transition to secondary school where the expectation in Year 7 is that pupils will be spending a considerable amount of time per evening on homework. It is important that pupils should gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time to study on their own. We want the transition to secondary school to be as smooth as possible for our pupils. The termly creative projects are to support the learning going on in the classroom and can be as creative as you would like them to be. From DT and art to historical, scientific or geographical research, we want you and your children to be immersed in learning as often as possible. Teachers will let you know at the beginning of each term some suggested projects to help consolidate things that are happening in the classroom. These will be noted on the Learning Overviews emailed to you at the start of every new long term. These can also be found on our website under the curriculum tab using this link: [Learning Overviews](#)

Resources for Home Learning

From September 2021, all Pupils joining EYFS that qualify for Free School Meals (Pupil Premium Funding) will receive a bag of home learning resources. The bag will include a story book, numicon, a small watercolour paint palette & brush, a globe and writing resources. This will allow all pupils to access homework and any virtual learning set by the teacher. If you think you may qualify for Free School Meals (FSM), please use the following link: [Apply for Free School Meals](#)

THE PARKLAND FEDERATION HOME LEARNING POLICY

Communication

EYFS staff will communicate mainly through the use of **Tapestry**. This is an online learning platform that tracks the development of pupils in Inkpen and Kerr Class. Please do ensure you sign up for an account in order to benefit from this as soon as your child starts school. Ask your child's class teacher if you have any issues accessing this.

All class teachers will let you know how well your child is doing during parent consultations (twice yearly), informal book looks after school and through regular communication. Interim Reports for your child will be shared with you in Autumn and Spring and there will be a detailed end of year report during the Summer term. If you have any concerns or questions at any point, please feel free to email your child's class teacher. They will be more than happy to help.

Over the course of an academic year, we provide support to parents who want to learn how we teach different areas of the curriculum, such as phonics, reading and maths calculations. Do look out for these to support you at home and check out our workshops on our website by clicking this link: [Virtual Parent Workshops](#)

If you have any issues with logins or accessing our online learning resources, please speak to your class teacher who will ensure these are sorted out swiftly for you.

At Parkland, we believe that parental involvement is a key factor in a child's success in school. It fosters a strong home-school partnership, ensuring consistency and reinforcement of learning. It also boosts children's confidence and motivation, knowing they have their parents' support. Research shows that parental involvement leads to improved academic performance, better behaviour and a stronger foundation for a child's future educational journey. We would like to thank you in advance for the support you give your child/children.