



# Hotham Primary School

## Home Learning Policy

### Autumn 2023

<b>Ownership and Consultation</b>	
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<b>Approval</b>	Headteacher; CFC Committee for information

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## Why do we do Home Learning?

The main purpose of home learning is the consolidation of learning and opportunity to practise and rehearse learning that has been covered at school. Home learning should not require parents/carers to teach anything new but pupils may sometimes need support or reminding. Parents and carers should support pupils to complete their home learning and remind children to complete it.

## Aims and Objectives

### *As a school we aim to:*

- Support children to reach their potential;
- Promote a love of reading;
- Provide home learning to consolidate key skills learnt in the classroom such as spellings, handwriting, times tables and number bonds;
- Promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- Respect quality family time by setting small manageable tasks with optional opportunities for families to expand this should they wish and not set home learning over school holidays;
- Provide opportunities for family collaboration and creativity;
- Create a positive attitude to consolidating learning at home;
- Ensure that our full curriculum offer can continue through remote learning in the event of an unplanned closure.

### *We expect that pupils will:*

- Develop a passion for reading by reading regularly with an adult;
- Take proud in their work outside of school and try their best;
- Achieve creative outcomes;
- Develop strong work habits for the future;
- Learn key number bonds and facts to succeed in maths throughout the years;
- Revise phonics and key words in Key Stage 1;
- Rapidly recall times tables facts up to 12x12 in Key Stage 2;
- Learn and apply spelling patterns and words in line with the National Curriculum;
- Engage with any remote learning in the event of an unplanned closure.

### *We expect parents/carers to:*

- Read regularly with their child at home and write in the reading record or in the case of older pupils, support them to do this;
- Provide praise and encourage so children know that home learning is valuable to their learning;
- Ensure children regularly complete home learning tasks to the best of their ability, protecting time to do this so it is a positive experience;
- Share responsibility with the school to ensure that children know key number facts and times tables;
- Raise any questions relating to home learning with their child's class teacher in the first instance;
- Support their children to access and participate in remote learning in the event of an unplanned closure.

## Home Learning Expectations at a glance

Year	Daily Reading	Phonics/ Spelling	Numbots/ TTRS	Google Classroom Task	Creative Project Activities
How often?	Minimum of 4 times a week in Reading Record Books	Practice a few times a week	3 x a week minimum	1 task per week (English or maths)	Optional – do as much or as little as you like
<b>N</b>	✓ Read to your child daily	✗	✗	✗	*
<b>R</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗	*
<b>1</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗	*
<b>2</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	*
<b>3</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	*
<b>4</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	*
<b>5</b>	✓ Independent	✓	✓	✓	*
<b>6</b>	✓ Independent	✓	✓	✓	*

\* Our Project based home learning is optional and parents may like to support their child with a variety of activities.

## Reading

### Why is reading at home important?

Reading is life-changing: Children who read in their spare time are more likely to do well in school, have strong friendships, have better mental health, better career prospects and happier lives! At Hotham, we are passionate about reading and aim to develop good reading habits in our pupils. This is the most important home learning task that parents can do with their child. Depending on your child's age/ability parents may want to read to them, with them, have them read out loud to you. Confident readers in Year 5 and 6 can read to themselves and record their reading independently in the Reading Record Books.

### Reading Books

All children at Hotham are given reading books to read at home. Once pupils start learning phonics sounds and are ready to start reading, they are given a decodable phonics book. This generally happens in the autumn term of the Reception year. Pupils also take home a 'Reading for Pleasure' book. Once pupils are reading

independently, they will choose their own reading book but will continue to regularly take another book home from the Hotham Project Book selection or the school library.

### **Reading Records**

Parents are asked to record in reading records how their child is reading at home as this offers a two-way communication between the class teacher and the parents. Reading should be recorded in their Reading Record books a minimum of 4 times a week. Older children (usually in Y5 and Y6) take responsibility for completing their own reading records but we still expect parents of these children to hear them reading regularly. Reading records also hold the appropriate sound and word mats to help parents of younger children to practise at home. Reading Record books will be checked regularly by staff.

**Pupils should bring their Reading Record Book and their reading book to school every day.**

### **Reading during an unplanned closure**

The school will ensure, to the best of its ability, that all pupils have access to an appropriate reading book in the event of an extended unplanned closure.

## **Phonics/Spelling**

**RECEPTION** - In Reception, pupils will be given a weekly home learning phonics sheet. These give parents an overview of what pupils are learning each week and how pupils can be supported at home with their phonics. It usually includes sounds to read and write.

**YEAR 1** - Pupils in Y1 will be set spelling words every week and they complete activities in class to help them remember the sounds and spelling of these words.

**YEAR 2 to YEAR 6** - Pupils in Y2 to Y6 will be set spelling words every two weeks. They will be quizzed on these words in class so they should learn and rehearse them at home in a variety of ways.

## **Google Classroom**

Google Classrooms are in place for pupils from Nursery to Year Six. All children are given a unique username and password to access their year group classroom. It is the main form of communication between the class teacher and parents regarding home learning.

**NURSERY to YEAR 1** - Pupils in these groups should be supported to log on their Google Classroom weekly to see the information their class teacher has shared with them. Parents can upload photos and video clips they would like to share with the class or class teacher.

**YEAR 2 to YEAR 6** - Pupils will be set a weekly task every Friday on Google Classroom which will usually be a quiz on English or maths that has been covered that week. Parents should support their child to log in to their account and access the home learning. We ask that this task is completed by Thursday mornings to allow staff time to look over the work and feedback to pupils in class. Pupils who do not complete this task will be expected to complete it at school during their free time.

Families should continue to follow our school values when learning online.

### **Accessibility**

The school will endeavour to support any families who struggle to access the internet. The school will work with charities to secure devices for disadvantaged families and this will be under constant review.

## **Numbots or Times Table Rock Stars**

Please support your child to log in to Numbots (Y1 & Y2) or TTRS (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) regularly. We ask that pupils 'play' on the app for around 10 minutes, three times a week. Little and often is best! Pupils in Y4, 5 and 6 will also be quizzed on their times tables regularly. Pupils who know all their times tables fluently will be invited to join the 144 club and will earn a special badge.

## **Optional Creative Projects**

NURSERY to YEAR 6 - Each term, pupils will be set a variety of open-ended activities. This gives children an opportunity to explore aspects of the curriculum that appeal to their personal interests. Parents who are seeking more home learning ideas may complete as many as they like. Pupils are encouraged to take photos of their learning and upload it to their Google Classroom or to bring their learning into the class whenever they complete it during the term. Pupils will be given opportunities to share their learning at school.

## **Other online resources**

The school may make other online subscriptions available from time to time and expects parents to make good use of these to support children's learning during the normal school term. These resources can also be used to supplement any learning which may take place during an unplanned closure. Please see the inside of your child's reading record book for their log in details and passwords.

## **Marking and feedback**

Quizzes which are set on Google Forms will usually be marked electronically. Longer tasks on Google Classroom will receive a response from the teacher, including praise and an action point, if needed. Feedback to home learning activities are usually shared verbally with children in the classroom during the week. Exceptionally high quality home learning will be celebrated at school with positive praise.

## Home Learning Expectations



### Why is reading at home important?

Reading is life-changing: Children who read in their spare time are more likely to do well in school, have strong friendships, have better mental health, better career prospects and happier lives! At Hotham, we are passionate about reading and aim to develop reading habits in our pupils. Families can help us by reading with their child every day (if possible) until children are reading fluently independently. Please prioritise reading at home.

### Why do we do Home Learning?

The main purpose of home learning is the consolidation of learning and opportunity to practise and rehearse learning that has been covered at school. Home learning should not require parents/carers to teach anything new but pupils may sometimes need support or reminding. Parents and carers should support pupils to complete their home learning and remind children to complete it. Our Project based home learning is optional and parents may like to get stuck in with a variety of activities.

Year	Daily Reading	Phonics/ Spelling	Numbots/ TTRS	Google Classroom Task	Creative Project Activities
How often?	Minimum of 4 times a week in Reading Record Books	Practice a few times a week	3 x a week minimum	1 task per week (English or maths)	Optional – do as much or as little as you like
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3	✓	✓	✓	✓	*
4	✓	✓	✓	✓	*
5	✓ Independent	✓	✓	✓	*
6	✓ Independent	✓	✓	✓	*

**Daily reading** – This is the most important thing you can do with your child. Reading should be recorded in their Reading Record books a minimum of 4 times a week. Depending on your child's age/ability you may want to read to them, with them, have them read out loud to you or if they are confident readers in Year 5 and 6 then they can read to themselves and record their reading independently in Reading Record Books.

**Phonics/spelling** – Pupils in Y1 to Y6 will be set spelling words. They will be quizzed on these words in class so they should learn and rehearse them at home in a variety of ways.

**Numbots/Times Table Rock Stars** – Please support your child to log in to Numbots (Y1 & Y2) or TTRS (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6) regularly. We ask that pupils 'play' on the app for around 10 minutes, three times a week. Little and often is best! Pupils in Y4, 5 and 6 will also be quizzed on their times tables regularly. Pupils who know all their times tables fluently will be invited to join the 144 club and will earn a special badge.

**Google Classroom Task** – Pupils in Y2 to Y6 will be set a weekly task every Friday on Google Classroom which will usually be a quiz on English or maths that has been covered that week. Please support your child to log in to their account and access the home learning. We ask that this task is completed by Thursday mornings to allow staff time to look over the work and feedback to pupils in class. Pupils who do not complete this task by will be expected to complete it at school during their free time.

**Optional Creative Projects** – Each term, your child will be set a variety of open-ended activities. Pupils are encouraged to take photos of their learning and upload it to their Google Classroom or to bring their learning in to the class whenever they complete it during the term. Pupils will be given opportunities to share their learning at school.