



Midmar School

Home Learning Policy

- Article 28: (Right to an education) Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.
- Article 29: (Goals of Education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

(UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)

Updated February 2022

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Rationale

The aims of home learning are to extend and support children's wider learning out with school. Home learning plays an important role in promoting attainment and achievement. The partnership between school and home and the co-operation of pupils, parents and staff is key to successful home learning.

Aims

- ◆ to support and consolidate learning
- ◆ to apply and extend understanding of concepts
- ◆ to provide opportunities for independent work
- ◆ to encourage ownership and responsibility for learning
- ◆ to recognise wider learning and achievement
- ◆ to encourage children to take a pride in their work, school and community

Home Learning activities will be planned for pupils which will develop knowledge and skills. Teachers will explain links between home tasks and work done in school.

In addition, pupils will share their wider learning and achievements in a variety of ways. The school will look for opportunities to develop and capture such achievements for all pupils.

Home learning should:

- ◆ reinforce learning and teaching in class
- ◆ be motivating / stimulating
- ◆ be challenging
- ◆ be creative
- ◆ allow for individual choice
- ◆ create channels for parent / teacher dialogue

Examples of home learning

Some examples of activities set by teachers may include;
Reading, Phonics, Writing, Spelling, Mathematics, Current Affairs and Topic work.

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Some examples of the application of school learning in day-to-day tasks could include;

- the use of maths while baking, shopping, playing games or doing DIY
- reading labels at the supermarket, instructions to build models, recipes, road signs or information posters
- discussing current affairs seen on the News

Some examples of wider learning and achievements:

Opportunities could include; music / drama / dance, membership of clubs and groups, crafts and construction, interests / hobbies, sporting activities and other life skills.

Expectations:

- ◆ School will explain the home learning policy and process to parents and in addition answer any queries should they arise.
- ◆ Children will receive 'Weekly Planners' where daily events, activities and other information including wider learning and achievements are recorded by teachers, pupils or parents.
- ◆ Children should bring their 'Weekly Planners' daily to school.
- ◆ 'Weekly Planners' should be brought home each night. This will be children's responsibility supported by teachers.
- ◆ Children and teachers are encouraged to make comments in the 'Weekly Planners' as appropriate.
- ◆ Teachers will set home learning activities throughout the week.
- ◆ Teachers will post learning activities on *Google Classroom / Seesaw*. (Currently this is only for children in Primary 5 - 7.)
- ◆ Children are expected to read at home. This reading will be a mixture of reading for enjoyment and core reading set by the teacher. Parents are asked to support and encourage their children to read at home.
- ◆ Parents are expected to sign their child's Weekly Planner when homework is completed and weekly.

Online Learning

Weekly home learning activities will be posted on *Google Classroom* for children in Primary 5 - 7.

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'Unfinished' Class Work

Unfinished class work is not classed as 'home learning'. 'Unfinished class work' is work unfinished when the teacher feels that there has been a lack of effort during the school day. A note explaining why the work has been sent home will accompany the work. Parents are asked for their co-operation to ensure the work is completed.

School Closure

A section within Google Classroom will be set up with activities for children to access in the event of school closure. In the event of school being closed for a longer period e.g. 3-4 days additional activities will be posted where possible. (If teachers can access the Internet)

Holiday / Illness

When children are absent due to holidays or illness, it is not our policy to send work home. Instead, children are asked to catch up when they return. Concepts will be taught in school and reinforcement work completed either in school, sometimes during lunchtime break, or at home

Absence due to Covid and or self-isolation

On parental request, activities will be provided for a child who has a positive Covid result or is self-isolating due to Covid but who is well enough to complete work from home. Parents should contact the school to make arrangements with the child's teacher.

Guide to time spent on tasks set by school:

The school sees these set tasks as part of the child's wider home learning experience. This should be a positive experience for both children and parents where tasks are managed on a weekly basis. However, if on occasion, children are experiencing difficulties completing tasks, either due to time constraints or the complexity of the task, parents should contact the school.

Policy Reviewed: 16 th February 2022 Shared with Parent Council: 22 nd February 2022

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Staff:

E. Shepherd - Head Teacher

J. Miller - Teacher

G. Sutherland - Teacher

A. Reid - Teacher

M. Black - PSA