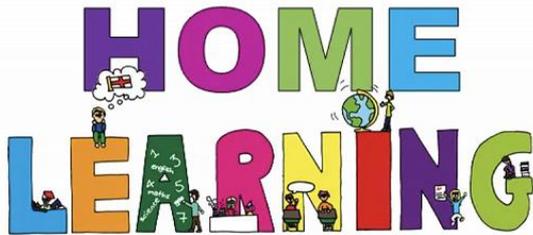


# P4-7 PARENT/CARER GUIDE TO HERMIE HOME LEARNING 2022-2023



## What is 'Home Learning'?

Home Learning refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons.

## What information informed our 'Home Learning' Policy?

In our Home Learning survey May 2022 parents'/carers' feedback included –

- 77% of parents/carers felt that home learning was beneficial some or all of the time
- 23% of parents/carers did not feel that home learning was beneficial
- 65% or above of parents/carers felt that reading, spelling and maths tasks were beneficial
- Less than 30% of parents/carers felt that topic and long-term home learning were beneficial
- 71% of parents/carers preferred home learning to be undertaken and shared with staff in a written jotter rather than on an online platform

Many parents/carers also fed back that they felt that home learning was useful in consolidating learning that has taken place in class and helping parents/carers to understand their child's progress but some felt that home learning created tension and conflict within the home.

Our policy review took account of the above parent/carer feedback and also included a review of research undertaken by the Education Endowment Fund. This research found that although home learning does have a positive impact on attainment it is smaller in Primary than Secondary and there is some evidence that the impact of home learning decreases as more time is spent on it (little and often is key!). Home learning should be an integral part

of school learning and not an add on. E.g it should enhance the learning that is already happening in class.

## **What are the benefits of Home Learning?**

### *Consolidation / Preparation*

Home Learning provides opportunities to consolidate work done in class and to prepare for future lessons. Reading, spelling pattern practice and class related maths tasks are examples of consolidation / preparation Home Learning tasks.

### *Development of study techniques*

Home Learning provides opportunities for the development of study techniques.

Pupils are given the chance to:

- learn how to manage their time
- be organised and prepared
- take some responsibility for their own learning

### *Enrichment*

Home Learning provides an opportunity to enrich the curriculum. It allows pupils to share the knowledge they have acquired in school and to apply the skills they have been taught. Being able to transfer skills and apply knowledge across other areas is an important element in ensuring a pupil is secure within their learning. The home, the community, the environment and the media are all additional sources of information. Investigations and research tasks are examples of enriching homework tasks.

## **What are some of the challenges of home learning?**

*Some children have lots of clubs and busy home lives and it is hard to find a time during the week.*

Remember – we do not expect the children to spend long periods of time on home learning. Short and frequent is best.

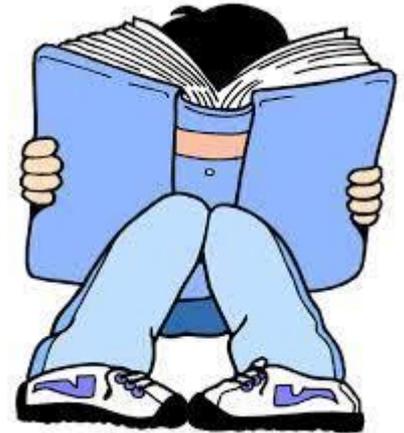
*Some children do not have a quiet space or resources at home to use e.g. no internet access.*

We will always try to provide all of the resources needed but do let us know if this is an issue for you.

## **What will 'Hermie Home Learning' look like in Primary 4-7?**

### **READING**

All Primary 4-7 children will have a group reading book that stays at school for reading lessons. They will also have a library book of their choice for reading for enjoyment that will come home. They should bring this book to school every day. They will be asked to try and read with to an adult or independently daily or at least 4 times a week. They will be given a termly grid of reading tasks to consolidate their comprehension skills. We would ask that they complete at least one task from the reading grid each week.



### **SPELLING**

Your child will take home a termly grid of spelling and writing tasks. They will bring home a copy of the spelling pattern that they are working on and some examples of its use. We would ask that your child completes at least one of the tasks from the writing grid weekly.

### **NUMERACY AND MATHEMATICS**

Your child will take home a termly grid of maths and numeracy tasks. We would ask that your child completes at least one of the tasks from the maths and numeracy grid each week. Some of the time the class teacher may provide a worksheet for completion or set a task on Sumdog, if this is the case we do not expect your child to also complete a task from the grid unless they choose to!

### **OTHER AREAS OF LEARNING**

In order to reduce the amount of time expected of 'Home Learning' we have made our topic home learning optional. We have produced 'Topic Home Learning Maps' which can be found on the class page of the website and these provide ideas of enrichment activities that can be completed at home and shared with the teacher/class each week. We recognise that different families have different time commitments, and it may be that one child may only complete an additional home learning task a couple of times a term and whereas others may choose to complete an additional task weekly. We also recognise that children also complete other 'home learning' with their families. If your child has completed a project on an area

of interest or has an achievement from an extra curriculum club we want to hear about it! Learning takes many forms!

### **When will my child bring home their Home Learning and when should they bring Home Learning into school?**

'Home Learning' jotters should be brought into school on a **WEDNESDAY**

'Home Learning' jotters will come home on a **FRIDAY**

### **How will my child's Home Learning be assessed?**

The class teacher will always look at their home learning but they may only use a sticker or stamper to let you know they have seen it.

Most feedback will take place verbally with their teacher and the older children will have opportunities to peer assess and mark each other's work.

All classes will have an agreed 'Home Learning' part of their week in which the teacher may share 'Home Learning' achievements with the class or discuss an area of 'Home Learning' that lots of children have found tricky.

### **How much time should my child be spending on Home Learning?**

Primary 4-7 pupils should be spending no more than 30 minutes up to four times a week.

### **What should I do if my child is finding Home Learning stressful and it is causing conflict in the home?**

Please speak to us or write a note in the Home Learning jotter if your child is reluctant to complete tasks. Your child's class teacher may advise you to prioritise a key area such as reading or it may be a sign that your child needs their Home Learning further differentiated.

Please do not make it into a battle, little and often is key and it is often a matter of finding the right time to do some learning as a family. For some this may be over breakfast, others may find that reading together before bedtime works.

Remember Home Learning should be a consolidation of learning and all learning will be reviewed at school.

