



# Balby Central Primary School

## Policy for Home Learning

**Date of Policy: October 2016**

**Approved by the Governing Body:**

**Review Date: September 2018**

**At Balby Central Primary School we believe it is important to encourage children to be independent and develop the skills to be confident learners both in and out of school.**

We encourage children to take responsibility for their learning as they grow and develop throughout their primary years using a range of techniques. We believe it is important to develop, maintain and sustain links between home and school so that parents and carers can be part of their child's learning.

The aims of home learning at Balby Central are

1. to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
2. to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
3. to promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning
4. to enable some aspects of the curriculum to be further explored independently
5. to consolidate and reinforce what children learn at school
6. to help children develop good work habits for the future.

### **Different ways you can help your child**

We regard home learning as an integral part of the curriculum which links closely with the work taught in school. We send home a menu of activities; some of which are essentials for the week and some of which are desirable.

### **What you can do as parents / carers**

We encourage parents to work closely with their child to support their child with the home learning they have been given. Providing space and time for your child to feel comfortable and settled to complete their home learning will help them to do their best.

There are many different ways you can help your child with their home learning from supporting them with their projects to reading three times a week. We believe that parents should read books to their child. Sharing books is just as valuable in aiding a child's progress in reading as is your child reading to you or to their teachers. Practical activities where children are encouraged to use their skills in real life are very helpful to children's learning this can include reading timetables, cooking, weighing ingredients, and handling real money as a few examples. We give home learning in different forms including learning platforms which the teacher will use to set and review home learning.

Our aim is to make home learning fun, interesting and inspiring for all children of all abilities and interests, encouraging independence and a desire to practise their skills.

If parents and carers have any queries or questions about home learning the first contact is your child's class teacher.

## Home learning

All children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will be given a home learning book to focus children on their responses. Children are encouraged to take pride in this book. Evidence of home learning projects will be photographed and placed in books. Home learning activities are expected to be completed on a weekly basis and handed in every Thursday.

All phases will run a home learning club each Monday lunch which is available for all children to access

Year Group	Reading	Spelling	Project
Foundation Nursery Reception	Children will be asked to read at home at least three times a week to share books	Key words given for children to learn	
Key Stage 1 Year 1 Year 2	Children will be expected to read three times a week	Spelling words to learn each term	Home Learning menu given each half term for children to choose activities to complete for their projects. In Year 1 home learning menu begins after October half term.
Key Stage 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6	Children will be expected to read three times a week	Spelling words to learn each term	Children will receive a desirable and essential menu each half term.  In year 6 children will be given additional work to support their targets for the end of year expectations

All home learning will be reviewed by the class teacher. The home learning menu will be stuck into each child's book, with tasks highlighted and dated on completion.

Good examples of learning are celebrated across school and celebrated in class, assemblies and between phases. Children are encouraged to talk about their work and explain the work they have completed.

An example of the home learning menu can be found below.

## Year 4 Homework Menu- Summer Term 2



With the introduction of our new maths scheme, pupils will now be expected to complete a maths homework task every week in addition to reading, spellings and times tables. We understand that we already ask a lot of our pupils and do not want homework to have a negative impact on home life, therefore we have introduced a new menu style homework sheet. The tasks in the first column (red) are ESSENTIAL and should be completed each week in order for pupils to make good progress. However, the tasks in the second column (blue) are optional and can be completed in any order if you choose to do so.

If you have any questions about the homework, please do not hesitate to ask.

ESSENTIAL Weekly Tasks:(all)	Optional Tasks: (any order)
Read at least 3 times a week and get your reading record signed.	Write an adventure story called 'The Tree of Life'. Try to use all the skills you have been learning in school.
Practise your spellings at least once a week and have your spelling sheet signed.	Find a tree that interests you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sketch it</li> <li>• Write a poem about it</li> <li>• Describe it</li> <li>• Take photos of it</li> </ul> Present your work in an interesting way.
Practise your times tables at least twice a week.	Make a model tree of life completely from your own imagination. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you write instructions to explain how to make it?</li> <li>• Can you write an explanation of why you chose to create your tree this way?</li> </ul>
Complete your maths homework sheet(s)	Create your Family Tree.