East Ayton Primary School

Traditional Values, Modern Vision

Home Learning

Reviewed: September 2026

Next review due: September 2027

We believe that a child's education does not cease when they leave the school building and learning at home is an essential part of good education. Homework makes an important contribution to progress at school. The purpose of homework changes as children progress through the school. Short activities of different kinds provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult and to practise key skills in a supportive and secure environment. As children get older homework provides an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning and to consolidate basic skills. It is important to understand that learning is not only curriculum based and children need the opportunity and time to rest, play and learn through different experiences outside of school. We take this into account with the quantity of homework set by school.

1. Subjects

Reading

Our main focus for homework is reading. Reading underpins all school learning, so is a vital skill to practice. We encourage children to read their reading scheme book at least 3 times a week to an adult at home and reading everyday would be ideal. The reading diary should be filled in every time the child reads at home. Reading books and diaries should be brought to school daily to allow 1:1 reading to happen at school.

Spellings

We also send children spellings home to learn. These reinforce the spelling rule learnt in school that week and the class teacher will share different strategies to use to learn these.

Maths and English

As the child move further up the school, they will also receive a maths and English focused activity. These will reinforce the maths and English topic of the week. For maths homework, our calculation policy shows the methods used in school to complete these or a help sheet will be provided. Pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 will also have a Times Table Rockstars log in to use at home and school. This is an excellent resource to learn your times tables and corresponding division facts and we regularly hold competitions between classes and schools nationally. Pupils in Year 6 will also use CGP books to support their SATs revision activities.

Topic

At the start of each half term, a topic homework will be set. This might be based on the science, geography, history, art or DT focus of the half term. More information will be given on the topic and potential work that could be completed at home across the half term. This will be different for the age groups, but might include a model, drawing, photographs or presentation. These will be brought into school for the final week of term to be shared and celebrated in class. This homework encourages children to follow their own interest in a specific topic and take ownership of their learning.

2. Setting homework

Homework will be set weekly and sent home in the homework book. It is important that this book is kept safe and brought back to school every week to allow homework to be checked and any support given. If this homework book is lost or damaged, there will be a cost to replace it. Homework tasks will vary as to the needs of the individual class and child. If your child is struggling with a piece of homework, it is important that they notify their class teacher so that additional support can be given.

All children are expected to complete their set homework tasks and submit these to their teacher by the deadline set. If homework is not being regularly completed over a half term period, the teacher will contact parents to discuss the reasons. If the problem continues parents will be invited to a meeting. We recognise that for some families and pupils the completion of homework may require further support from school and in such circumstances, we will seek to work with families and pupils in accordance with our school vision statement to enable all pupils to access homework and develop positive independent work habits.

The quantity and subject areas set will be as follows:

Year Group	Approximate time allocation (following government guidelines)	Activities
EYFS	5-10 minutes a day	Reading to parents Phonics reinforcement work Spelling and maths activities
Year 1 and 2	10-15 minutes a day	Reading to parents Spelling activities Maths and English (linked to class learning)
Year 3 and 4	15-20 minutes a day	Reading to parents Spelling activities Maths and English (linked to class learning) Times Table Rockstars
Year 5	30 minutes a day	Reading to parents Spelling activities Maths and English (linked to class learning) Times Table Rockstars
Year 6	30 minutes a day	Reading to parents Spelling activities Maths and English (linked to class learning) Times Table Rockstars Rollama (grammar) CGP SATs revision books (from January)

3. Expectations

How staff support this policy:

- By providing a range of homework tasks and activities
- By ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability
- By communicating with parents and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics studied in class and their children's individual tasks

How parents /carers can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets
- Provide a suitable place equipped with a clear table space, chair and good light
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework completed
- Be actively involved in the homework (particularly of younger children)
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by a comment in a reading record. We would also be interested in hearing how well the children completed other activities, whether they were interesting / too easy / too hard, etc

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.