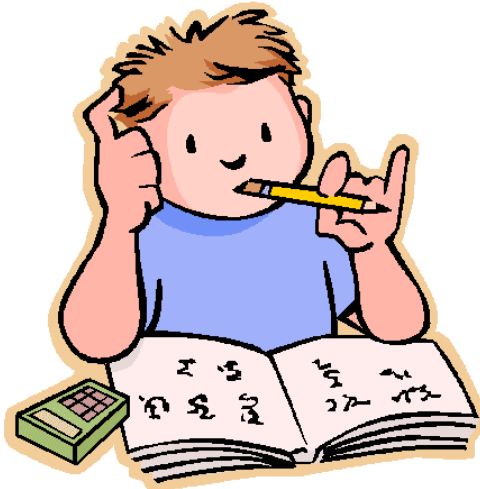


# Broomhill Primary School



## Homework/Home Learning Policy



Created: August 2021	Review: August 2022
Updated: August 2022	Review: August 2023

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Always aiming high  
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Onwards and upwards  
Striving for success  
We can work together  
And always do our best



### United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child

<p><b>12</b> Children have the right to give their opinions freely on issues that affect them. Adults should listen and take children seriously.</p>	<p><b>13</b> Children have the right to share freely with others what they learn, think and feel, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms other people.</p>	<p><b>17</b> Children have the right to get information from the Internet, radio, television, newspapers, books and other sources. Adults should make sure the information they are getting is not harmful. Governments should encourage the media to share information from lots of different sources, in languages that all children can understand.</p>	<p><b>31</b> Every child has the right to rest, relax, play and to take part in cultural and creative activities.</p>
<p><b>29</b> Children's education should help them fully develop their personalities, talents and abilities. It should teach them to understand their own rights, and to respect other people's rights, cultures and differences. It should help them to live peacefully and protect the environment.</p>			

### Scottish definition of learning at home

‘Learning at home is the learning which happens in the home, outdoors or in the community. It can take place through everyday activities that families already do and can overlap with aspects of organised or active learning activities’.

(Scottish Parental Involvement Officers Network, 2018)

Children in Scotland only spend around 15 per cent of their waking hours in school. The remaining 85 per cent of children's time is spent at home or in their communities and this presents a potentially significant opportunity for learning (OECD, 2014). Around 80 per cent of the difference in how well children do at school depends on what happens outside the school gates and so learning at home is crucial for children to learn and develop (Rasbash et al, 2010; Save the Children, 2013).

The last 2 years have seen a tremendous amount of change for pupils in school. Pupils have spent considerable time learning at home online, and on their return to school following periods of lockdown, school routines have been very different. Our community is now in the process of ‘building back better’ and in school we are keen to ensure that the digital skills developed during this period continue to be consolidated and built upon. Home learning will always be a very important part of children's learning experience. At Broomhill School we want to work closely with our parents/carers to ensure that homework is a valuable part of that experience, complimenting the other learning experiences and activities our pupils take part in out with school; supporting pupils to become successful learners, effective contributors, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Our pupils views are important to us and this policy has been developed in consultation with them. Parents/carers and staff have also been consulted in its development.

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What did our pupils say about homework?

*Pupils said that they liked using Google Classroom to complete homework and enjoyed online maths games such as Education City and Sum Dog. Some pupils voiced that they can find it hard to complete homework set if they have other activities such as clubs etc. Pupils said that they enjoyed tasks they could complete independently as they don't always have someone available to help them.*

What did our Parents/carers say about homework?

*Feedback from our annual questionnaire indicated that parents and carers have differing views and expectations regarding homework at Broomhill School and finding a consensus is challenging. Parents have voiced that they would like a more consistent approach to homework across the school.*

The following homework policy has been created, in consultation with pupils, parents and staff and provides details of the agreed homework expectation at Broomhill School.

Homework is provided to:

Reinforce learning and practise skills	To develop individual learning targets	To raise attainment and achievement
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Homework at Broomhill School will be issued on a weekly basis. Class teachers will clarify the details of homework each term in the class Learning Leaflet so that children and parents are able to pace the work over the week. All activities will be discussed and explained in school prior to going home.



At Broomhill School we use Google Suite for Education as an online platform for learning. Pupils will regularly use Google Classroom to complete homework activities and class teachers will continue to communicate directly with parents via the online classroom space. Support for parents in the use of Google

Classroom is available on our website by clicking the following link:

[Google Classroom Parental Support](#) We also use online games such as Education City and Sum Dog. (Your child's teacher will issue log in details). Other activities may be paper based. Parents/carers should talk to the class teacher if there are any challenges accessing online activities.

Homework will not usually be issued in the first and last week of term.

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The following section details an outline of homework activities at Broomhill School.

### **The Early Days of Primary 1**

During the first term of P1, parents/carers will be invited to attend a Curriculum Event and following this, class teachers will begin to introduce activities for home.

Picture Books for sharing special story times at home will be issued and then in Term 2 we move into wordless books or phonic readers when children are ready for that next stage.

### **Routine Activities for all Levels**

#### **Early/First Level – Primary 1, 2, 3**

##### **Phonics and Spelling**

P1: Sound/Phonic activities

P2/3: Phonics activities combined with spelling patterns

##### **Reading**

Reading will be taught 2-3 times per week in school and should be practiced at home.

##### **Maths**

Activities which reinforce and consolidate skills learned in school. Number bonds practice will also be given (Learn Its).

#### **First/Second Level – Primary 4 – 7**

##### **Spelling**

Spelling patterns and common words will be given weekly along with an active spelling activity.

##### **Reading**

Core reading books will be issued and should be read at home on a regular basis. Pupils at this level should be practising reading with expression to help convey understanding. Alternatively, pupils may be asked to share aspects of their home reading activities or take part in a class/group novel study.

##### **Maths**

Maths activities will be given which reinforce and consolidate work done in class. Regular practice of basic skills will be expected.

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## Homework

Other occasional activities issued across all stages may include:

- A Novel Study
- Preparing a talk or presentation to give to a group or to the class
- Preparing a poem to recite
- Research work based on our school topic or Big Question.
- Activities related to other areas of the curriculum, where relevant which may include an outdoor activity

**How parents/carers can support their children:**

- Listening to the reading pages set
- Encouraging children to read the pages again at another time, on their own
- Asking questions about the reading passages to confirm understanding and asking to predict what might happen next
- Asking the child about the meaning of new or unfamiliar words and supporting the use of a dictionary
- Encouraging expression in reading where appropriate, and the use of voice changes to suit different characters
- Encouraging the reading of other books and stories, magazines, newspapers, online texts, comics etc on a regular basis
- Discussing any written activity and checking for neatness, presentation and accuracy
- Encouraging your child to learn and use in context the spelling words issued
- Always communicate with the class teacher if the child is having any difficulties with homework, this can then be followed up by the class teacher.

Parents/carers should contact the school to speak with the class teacher if there are any difficulties or challenges with the completion of homework. Class teachers will always encourage pupils to complete the homework activities set but we understand that home lives are busy and there can be challenges from time to time. Class teachers or members of the Senior Leadership Team are happy to discuss any concerns or issues with parents/carers at the earliest opportunity.