#InspiredToLearn

Home Learning Guide

PHILOSOPHY

The Prince of Wales School is fundamentally committed to the idea of education as a partnership between families and school.

Families are the first educators of their children and their role in their children's continuing education in the early years is vital.

Teachers at The Prince of Wales School are committed to welcoming parents into school and to sharing information about the curriculum and children's individual progress.

At The Prince of Wales School we believe that parents have the right to:

- a welcome at the school
- regular, honest, professional and accurate information about their child's progress
- ask questions about how we do things at The Prince of Wales School
- express concerns and worries to class teachers and the headteacher
- receive open and honest information or the promise and delivery of action on their concerns.

We equally believe that parents have the responsibility to:

- support the school
- reinforce our high standards of behaviour and discipline
- support their children through talking to them, encouraging them to join clubs and to take up hobbies and to develop sporting interests, spending quality time with them and by taking an interest in their work at school
- share books with their child, listen to their child reading or encourage their child to read on their own, on a regular (preferably daily) basis
- support their children in completing home learning activities through discussion, encouragement and positive attitudes
- inform the class teacher if they feel the given homework is too easy or too difficult.

Home Learning is an area which has taken over from Homework. We believe it is about capturing the interests of our children and giving them skills and a mixture of formats to present their findings into school. Home Learning is part of the current class learning, so it is discussed within teaching lessons, as well as being displayed prominently. Finally the Headteacher will see special efforts of Home Learning and present certificates for carrying it out.

BUILDING LEARNING POWERS

Home learning will usually be presented through the medium of the 'Building Learning Powers' characters (see examples in Appendix One).

The 'Building Learning Powers' (BLP) approach underpins EVERYTHING we do at The Prince of Wales School.

BLP promotes positive attitudes to learning and the skills needed to develop lifelong learning success.



Find out more about our BLP approach to learning at -

https://sites.google.com/princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk/powblp/home

CORE STATEMENT

Teachers will encourage children to carry on their learning at home and outside of school.

It is the parents' responsibility to put this into effect.

By putting undue and inappropriate pressure on young children to do work at home, it is possible to do significant and long-term damage and this issue needs to be sensitively handled.







Example 'London Inspired' Home Learning - Reception Class

DETAILS OF HOME LEARNING GIVEN:

<u>Through our Pre-School</u>

- On a weekly basis every child has the opportunity to take home a library book, puzzle or game.
- The Pre-school uses the blog to communicate, i.e. asking children to bring in items to help within a topic - a shape picture, picture of them cooking at home, finding numbers and cutting out form magazines.
- 'WOWS' – The Pre-school gives you a template to fill out special moments which we share and then put into the child's magical achievements book..
- During each school break for the holidays an aspect of Home Learning is sent home and families are encouraged to participate.
- The blog is also used to explain aspects such as work on feelings, thinking about ourselves as learners. This is placed here to encourage parents to ask children about this discussion.
- Play and Learn library (Boromi) bags taken home during the term

<u>Reception and Year 1</u>

We state clear expectations that children should be:

- Sharing books
- Listening to an adult read
- Using a 'Read, Write, Inc.' book to read to parents regularly, preferably on a daily basis.

- Your child will bring home one group reading book as well as an individual books from the library (fiction) and also non-fiction books too.
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- In Year 1 Home Learning activities are sent out on a Friday and link to learning the children have done that week. The learning will include maths, reading and handwriting. In Reception very small pieces of home learning are sent out regularly, these are for you to choose to complete with your child. You will find these on the class blog as supporting ideas to enhance your child's learning.

It is our genuine feeling that support from parents is **FUNDAMENTAL** in developing children's interest and enjoyment of books and hence their level of attainment in reading. Sharing books and reading to children is every bit as useful at this stage to children's reading as other activities.

Young children who are read to and read regularly ***do 'learn to read'.***

Other 'Home Learning' which can support your child's learning includes:

- *Talking regularly to children. What was achieved today at school, enjoying doing at home, placing thoughts and ideas in order, sequencing thoughts.*
- *Read a story a day – discuss the story, talk about the pictures, predict what might happen next, explain to your child any unclear events in the story.*
- *Nursery rhymes – learn some with your child, act them out!*
- *Your child is reading to you from a book with a repetitive element in it, which they can rehearse and then read/perform to you.*
- *Sing! Children love to sing, again songs like nursery rhymes hold familiar repetitive structures, or choruses easy to learn (e.g. ten green bottles, old MacDonald, the wheels on the bus)*
- *Plenty of opportunities for drawing, colouring and painting. Use of media such as; chalk, pastels, paints, crayons, pencils, felt tips,*
- *Games – taking turns, learning simple rules, such as snakes and ladders, connect 4, draughts, simple dice games…*
- *Finding meaningful context for counting – climbing stairs, laying the table, at the supermarket, when other occasions arise*
- *Exercise – plenty of running around, visit a park, play in the sand/ pits, climbing frames, chasing balls, swings, lots of fun to do with family too!*
- *Small toys – role play, allowing children to act out feelings through play*
- *There are many excellent activities on the internet and packaged as APPS nowadays, e.g. Phonics play, Learning Zone, BBC,*
- *Ensure the atmosphere is calm and relaxed when children are preparing to settle to carry out some Home Learning. Try different times of the day to select the best times to encourage your child to carry out Home Learning. Do not stick rigidly to times if your child is tired or not in the right frame of mind, this will just counteract what you are trying to instil, which is a positive approach to Home learning.*
- *Plan in some quiet/ still time too, we all need to recharge our batteries!*

<u>Year 2</u>

Continue to read with your child as regularly as possible. Ten minutes a day makes a huge difference to your child's level of achievement. Generally, children of this age are able to access longer plots and concentration so maybe choose a family book where the adults read (or take it in turns), yet discussions are had over characters and what might happen next?

We state clear expectations that children should be:

- Visiting the library (school and local) regularly, to experience the enjoyment of choosing and sharing books.
- Sharing books, listening to an adult read
- Read to parents regularly, preferably on a daily basis. Your child will bring home one group reading book as well as an individual book from the library (fiction) and also non-fiction books too.
- Weekly spellings will come home relative to your child's ability, this will occur throughout the year. Your child may have a preferred way of learning these. At school we do provide each child with a 'Look, cover and then write the word' sheet which if filled in your child will gain a Super Hero point in class. There are many easy, fun and engaging ways to learn spellings. Please see Yr 2 teacher and blog for guidance about how to learn these at home.
- Logging onto Mathletics and Accelerated Readers.
- Home Learning activities may be sent out via letter and blog at the end of term or occasionally on a Friday so children can enquire about a new aspect of learning ready for the new term. This will be given out in response to the children's interest and enthusiasm. These will always have a time period of at least one week, and at Yr 2 it is up to the child whether they want to take part in the Home learning challenge, it is not compulsory.

Other 'Home Learning' which can support your child's learning includes:

- *Family activities which involve turn taking, following rules and having strategic plans – draughts, chess, board games, cards,*
- *Host of ICT activities which can help support learning – our School website – Pupil links will take them to Mathletics, Times Table Rockstars (from Spring term onwards) and Accelerated Reader as well as specific Yr group links selected to support learning.*
- *Ensure the atmosphere is calm and relaxed when children are preparing to settle to carry out some Home Learning. Try different times of the day to select the best times to encourage your child to carry out Home Learning. Do not stick rigidly to times if your child is tired or not in the right frame of mind, this will just counteract what you are trying to instil, which is a positive approach to Home learning.*
- *Plan in some quiet/ still time too, we all need to recharge our batteries!*
- *When tackling a piece of topic-based home learhome learning topic based, try to discuss with your child their learning preferences, how would they like to tackle this, produce it? This will then develop your child's natural interest, curiosity and talent. To make up a picture/poster, to write a poem or story, to create a short film, scrapbook of a trip, etc.*

<u>Year 3 and 4</u>

Continue to read with your child as regularly as possible. Ten minutes a day makes a huge difference to your child's level of achievement. Generally children of this age are able to access longer plots and concentration. They may be into a particular genre or author. Nurture these moments in reading, find other authors for them, share a book together, enjoy film adaptations of the text, and discuss similarities and differences. Nonfiction is also as important; news, science,

magazines, reference books, these are all fantastic ways to absorb new information and facts and learn about concepts and beliefs.

We state clear expectations that children should be:

- Visiting the library (school and local) regularly, to experience the enjoyment of choosing and sharing books.
- Daily individual reading practice, either to parents or independently
- Book to read to parents regularly, preferably on a daily basis. Your child will bring home an individual book from the library (fiction) and also non-fiction books too.
- Weekly spellings will come home relative to your child's ability, this will occur throughout the year. There are many easy, fun and engaging ways to learn spellings. Please see Yr 3 and 4 teacher and blog for guidance to how to learn these at home.
- Logging onto Spelling shed, TimesTable Rockstars and Accelerated Reader (follow Pupil links on our website).
- The completion of class based tasks as required

APPENDIX ONE - SAMPLE HOME LEARNING -

YEAR ONE -

Building My Learning Powers at Home with Remi and Reggie

Name:

Date:

 *Reflective! Use what I know to move my learning forward!*	 *Resilience! Don't give up, keep trying.....practice makes perfect!*
Project with Remi	*Practice with Reggie every day*
Task: Find out some facts about China and write these in your home learning book. 	*Find a nice relaxing spot to do some reading and practice your RWI special friends!*
How did I build MY learning powers?	

YEAR TWO -

Reflective! Use what I know to move my learning forward!  Spring 1 - Reflective Monkey	**Resilience!** Don't give up, keep trying..... Practice makes perfect! 
This week's Project with Remi	**Practice with Reggie every day**
Task: *See Activity sheet in Yellow Books* **Nelson Quiz** **RESEARCH CHALLENGE** Find the answer to as many of these questions as you can. If you get stuck on a question, don't worry, just leave it and go on to the next one. You don't have to do them in the order that I've written them. **Parents** - *We might need a bit of help with reading these questions. As for answers, the children have learned a bit about Nelson already, so some of these questions/answers should be familiar.* What was Nelson's father's job? How old was Nelson when he first joined the navy? What two significant injuries did Nelson get when fighting at sea? How did Nelson famously ignore an order to retreat from battle? In what year was the Battle of Trafalgar? How did Nelson send the famous message: "England expects every man will do his duty"? How was Nelson killed? Who was with Nelson when he died? How did they preserve Nelson's dead body so that they could bring it back to England? Where is Nelson buried? Where is the HMS Victory now?	20 minutes reading Can you complete the bit of "Maths Home Practice"? see attached activity sheet **"Counting in 2s"**  5 minutes of practising your spellings 10 minutes on Mathletics

YEAR THREE -

 *Resourceful Rose* *Home learning linked to Science*	 *Resilient Reggie* *Don't give up, keep trying...practice makes perfect!*
What we would like you to do: *Find 2 foods that you like to eat. Use the grid to record the carbohydrate, saturated fat, protein and salt. Use the questions on the sheet to compare the two foods.*	*Practice with Reggie every day.* ● *15 minutes Mathletics or 15 minutes TTRS* ● *15 minutes reading* ● *15 minutes spelling practice*

YEAR FOUR -



Reflective! Use what I know to move my learning forward!



Resilience! Don't give up, keep trying.....practice makes perfect!

Project with Remi

Task:
Search your home and record the different household appliances that use electricity.
You can use the worksheet on the back of this sheet or record your findings in another way.

Practice with Reggie

- Times Tables Rockstars
- Practice your spellings
- 15 minutes reading a day.
- Record your reading in your reading journals.

INCREASED EXPECTATION
+ INCREASED CHALLENGE
= INCREASED ENJOYMENT