HOME LEARNING POLICY

Date of last review:	September 2026	**Review period:**	Yearly
Owner:	Ocean Academy		



Ocean Academy – Home Learning Policy

At Ocean Academy, home learning is an important aspect of the learning process. It involves parents, teachers and children in a partnership that aims to raise standards and maximise educational opportunity. Our learning philosophy includes the building of knowledge schemas over time to enable the long term memory to store past learning so that this can be accessed by the working memory at relevant times. Overloading the working memory impedes on the ability to learn new knowledge and skills and so home learning gives our children the opportunity to practise the skills they are learning in school.

Regular home learning can:

- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork, forming a link between home and school.
- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance.
- Provide opportunities for individualised work, allowing children to develop the learning skills of independence, communication, resilience and self-motivation.
- Offer access to resources not found in school (public libraries, local museums etc).
- Consolidate and reinforce learning or assist in preparation for future class work.
- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development.
- Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future.
- Enable children to apply skills in different contexts and deepen understanding.
- Develop strength within their long term memory through practice and effort.

By setting home learning on a regular basis and gradually increasing the quantity from Year 3 to Year 6, our children will be well prepared for the transfer to secondary school.

Spellings:

Each child will have a set of spellings set that will be tested and then continued to be revised and used in context the following week. These words follow National Curriculum spelling patterns and are linked to the Sounds and Syllables scheme. Weekly spellings (detailing which spellings to learn) will then be added to the school website under 'Parent's Information' - 'Home Learning' and then in the Year Group section.

To support learning spellings at home, parents can:

- Talk about the word meaning in a variety of contexts
- Discuss when this word would be used effectively
- Support your child to learn how to spell the word and its variations
- Support your child to think of other words that have a similar meaning (synonyms) or the opposite meaning (antonyms)
- Investigate how the meaning of the word changes if you add a prefix or suffix (e.g. different or indifferent)
- Model the use of the word in everyday contexts

Reading:

Reading is important at any stage of a child's development and it is vital that young children are read to and with as well as reading or attempting to read for themselves. It is essential that an enjoyment of books is seen as an integral part of reading. Sharing text with children remains important at KS2. This could include a discussion on a variety of book- fiction, non-fiction, magazines, newspapers, comics, electronic texts etc. We encourage all of the family to share in this. Parents will be set up with a login for 'Boom Reader'. This is a free App that can be downloaded to record your child's daily reading at home and children can earn rewards for their reading. Teachers check Boom Reader weekly to ensure all children are reading daily but logging on Boom Reader at least 3 times per week. All children are able to change books regularly and visit the library weekly.

Homework Letter:

Homework letters for each year group are sent home at the start of the academic year. These letters explain the type and frequency of home learning in each year group. Weekly homework for years 3-5 will be set on Atom Learning and a link will be posted on the school website under 'Parent's Information' - 'Home Learning' and then in the Year Group section along with the spellings for the week..

Home Learning Expectations:

Weekly Home Learning	
Year 3	Home learning to be set on Atom Learning on a Friday and due on a Wednesday ● Each week homework will rotate between maths and English, with there being 10 questions set per week. ● Reading – the expectation is that your child reads at home every day and that this is recorded on Boom Reader at least 3 times per week. ● Times Tables Rockstars – 3 sessions of 10 minutes per week (Your child will be set tasks to complete by their class teacher). ● List of spellings, tested in school weekly on a Friday (list of spellings will be on the school website). ● Some children will be provided with learning tasks specific to their individual needs, parents will be notified if this is the case.
Weekly Home Learning	
Year 4	Home learning to be set on Atom Learning on a Friday and due on a Wednesday ● Maths work every week - based on what the children have learned that week in class 15 questions. ● English work every week - based on what the children have learned in class that week 15 questions ● Reading – the expectation is that your child reads at home every day and that this is recorded on Boom Reader at least 3 times per week. ● Times Tables Rockstars – 3 sessions of 10 minutes per week. (Please practise all up to x12) ● List of spellings, tested in school weekly (list of spellings will be on the school website) ● Some children will be provided with learning tasks specific to their individual needs, parents will be notified if this is the case. ● **Year 4 take the national Multiplication Tables Check in the summer term and so practising times tables regularly up to 12x12 not only helps with all mathematical calculations, but will also help them to feel more confident to work out times tables at speed.**
Weekly Home Learning	

Year 5	Home learning to be set on Atom Learning on a Friday and due on a Wednesday ● Maths work every week - based on what the children have learned that week in class 10 questions. ● English work every week - based on what the children have learned in class that week 10 questions ● Reading work every week - based on what the children have learned in class that week 10 questions. ● Reading – the expectation is that your child reads at home every day and that this is recorded on Boom Reader at least 3 times per week. ● Times Tables Rockstars – 3 sessions of 10 minutes per week. (Please practise all up to x12) ● Spelling words to be tested in school weekly - spellings to learn will be available on our school website. ● Some children will be provided with learning tasks specific to their individual needs, parents will be notified if this is the case.
Weekly Home Learning	
Year 6	Home learning to be set on Atom Learning on a Friday and due on a Wednesday ● There will be a CGP test set for maths, reading and GPS. ● Reading – the expectation is that your child reads at home every day and that this is recorded on Boom Reader at least 3 times per week. ● Times Tables Rockstars – 3 sessions of 10 minutes per week (Your child will be set tasks to complete by their class teacher). ● List of spellings, tested in school weekly (list of spellings will be on the school website). ● Some children will be provided with learning tasks specific to their individual needs, parents will be notified if this is the case. Some children will also be asked to complete Atom Learning work instead of their CGP books.

Children should always be encouraged to approach their home learning tasks with a 'Growth Mindset' and keep on trying, even if they are finding things difficult. Try to foster the language of, "I can't do it yet!"

It is our aim that home learning should never be too onerous nor should it create stress within the family. If parents have any concerns, they should not hesitate to contact their child's class teacher.

There is no time limit set for home learning tasks, but teachers have considered how long each task should take and will set work that is appropriate to age / ability. If home learning is taking an excessive amount of time, parents should contact their child's class teacher so that the class teacher can respond to this.

We appreciate that some children do extracurricular activities and that family life can be busy. We strongly believe that family time is important which is why we have set very consistent days for the receiving and returning of home learning. The expectation is that parents will adhere to this timeframe. Parents should speak to the class teacher if there are any difficulties.

As Atom learning is an online platform, if parents have any issues with accessing online learning, please contact the school office.

The responsibility of teachers:

Teachers will:

- Set home learning in line with this policy.
- Upload spelling home learning on the agreed day of the week on the school website.
- Provide home learning that is appropriate to the age / ability of the child.
- Contact parents of children who have repeatedly not handed in their home learning.

- Reward children for completing their home learning in line with the school's reward systems.
- Inform parents if there is a problem regarding home learning.
- Teachers will analyse information gathered about homelearning, and build identifiable trends into the plans for class and intervention teaching.

The responsibility of parents:

Parents will:

- Support the school by ensuring that their child completes the home learning on time each week.
- Provide a suitable place for the home learning to be completed.
- Encourage and praise their child when they have completed their home learning.
- Actively encourage independence.
- Make it clear that they value home learning and support the school by explaining how completing tasks set helps progress.
- Emphasise that organising time and belongings and meeting deadlines are important life skills and will support their independence, especially when moving to secondary school.
- Speak to the class teacher if there are any concerns regarding home learning or if they are unable to make the deadline.
- Read the home / school learning agreement located on the school website.

The responsibility of the child:

Children will:

- Complete the home learning on time.
- Organise their time and belongings.
- Listen to advice given by their parent or carer.
- Try to keep a Growth Mindset and keep on trying.
- Look after their reading / library book.
- Read the home / school learning agreement.

Equal opportunities:

All teaching and non-teaching staff at Ocean Academy are responsible for ensuring that all pupils, irrespective of gender, ability, ethnic origin or social circumstances, have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. Day-to-day monitoring of the Home Learning Policy and the provision of equal opportunities in this respect is the responsibility of the class teacher.

The blended learning Policy

The blended curriculum is designed to suit the needs of our pupils when appropriate. Parents and children will need to sign the acceptable use agreement before access to any online learning can begin. This policy can be found in the policies section of the academy website.