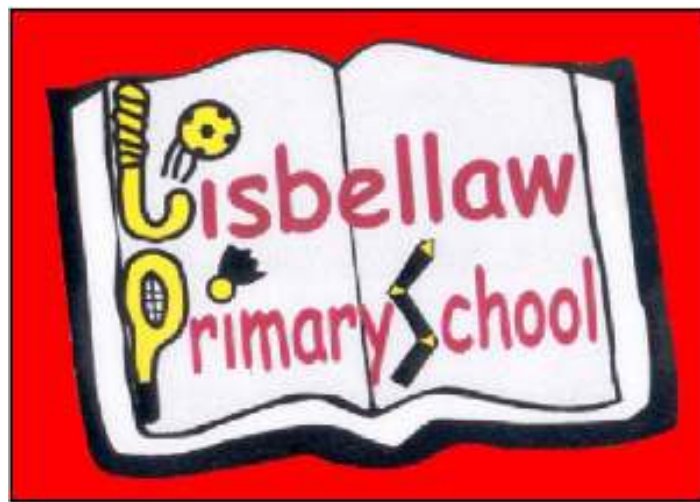


Lisbellaw Primary School



Home Learning Policy



HOME LEARNING POLICY

Home Learning is viewed as part of the learning and teaching process for pupils and it allows pupils to develop the practice of independent study. Pupils in Lisbellaw Primary School are aware of their preferred learning style and what helps the learning process such as water, exercise, colour, healthy eating etc. and are encouraged to take home study seriously.

Parental involvement in their child's learning is vital to their success in school and parents are invited to meet their child's teacher at the beginning of the school year in order to discuss the expected style and content of the home learning for the incoming year.

Purpose

The purpose of home learning is to extend the learning experience beyond the boundaries of school and to help develop the skills required for lifelong learning to take place.

Parent's involvement in this process is vital and so links between home and school should be strong. We believe that children who have worked to the best of their ability in school should not be required to spend a lot of time studying at home; however homework can give the child the opportunity to foster and create interests and to use materials and other sources that may not be available in the classroom.

Guidelines

In Lisbellaw Primary School, the dyslexia friendly strategies introduced in school have been extended to home learning. These include a choice of recording such as video, power point, bullet points, rich pictures, mind maps etc. Children who are on the dyslexic continuum may have some of the tasks set for home learning reduced.

Home learning should be guided by the following principles:

- Home learning should be enjoyable and stimulating.
- Reading with parents or carers makes a vital contribution to success at school and should be given priority.
- Parents are invited to school at the beginning of each school year to have the type and content of home learning explained by the teacher.

- On a Monday morning, pupils will be given a printed page with the home learning for the incoming week on it and this will be stuck into their diary.
- Committing learning to memory such as mathematical tables and spelling is equally as valuable as written learning and must have time spent on it.
- Children will always have suitable reading material in their bags so that they can read for pleasure.
- Children who have home learning set by Special Need's teachers will not normally have class homework.
- Home learning should be set for a short time only in order to allow time for pupils to relax and develop hobbies.

Guidelines for Parents

- Make home learning an enjoyable experience for both parent and child.
- Provide a relaxed area for home learning with no distractions.
- Give time to your child and help them where necessary.
- Check and sign the home learning diary if the child has completed the work to the best of their ability.
- Setting your child additional work may be counterproductive as it will affect their enthusiasm for school so always seek advice from the class teacher.
- Reading to your child is invaluable and should be continued throughout the child's primary school career.
- If the child is unable to complete home learning for a good reason write a note in the home learning diary.
- Help your child to complete learning home study by using all the learning styles. E.g. memorizing mathematical tables or spelling should involve writing, speaking and movement.
- Children should be encouraged to use ICT to help complete home learning tasks e.g. digital camera, internet, word processor etc.

Guidelines for teachers

- Reading/comprehension activities will be practical as far as possible in order to avoid a lot of writing.
- Pupils are allowed to bring home learning tasks to school on the following day if they forget them but after that it has to be completed in school during free time.
- Where possible home learning will be dyslexia friendly.
- The use of ICT will be encouraged.
- Home learning will be explained to children in class and an example shown..
- Where possible children will be given a choice of recording their answers.
- Children will have the opportunity to have a one minute start on home learning task in class, if possible.

Guidelines for children

- Get out your Home Learning Diary.
- Collect the books and equipment that you will need.
- Read what you are being asked to do carefully.
- Ask Mum or Dad to help.
- Complete the task and be sure that it is the very best work that you can do.
- Get it checked and signed by Mum or Dad.
- Put it into your school bag.

Parents should be guided by teachers as to the appropriate time to be spent on home study.

Remember playing games, reading together and quality family times are vital to the child's wellbeing and affects his/her ability to learn so try to make time for this as well as the set home learning tasks.