Purley Partnership Federation

Purley Nursery School
Achieving and growing together

Christ Church Primary School
Nurturing lifelong learners with God's guidance

Home Learning Policy

Revised February 2026 , to be reviewed by February 2029

Aims

- To develop the attitudes and independent learning skills needed for successful, independent lifelong learning.
- To promote the idea that learning is not a fixed task set by the teacher but extends beyond the classroom and can be achieved in many ways.
- To support and enrich the learning experiences within the classroom.
- To encourage the involvement of parents and carers in their child's learning.
- To prepare older pupils to meet the demands of Secondary School.

Type of Home Learning

The type of Home Learning will vary according to the age and ability of the child.

- **Daily reading** is an integral part of the Home Learning programme for all children. It is recommended that all children share a book with an adult for at least 10 minutes every day.

At Purley Nursery School children visit the library weekly to select their own book to bring home and read with their parents and carers(s).
In Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils will bring home a Little Wandle Book and a Reading for Pleasure Book (from October half term in Reception). Pupils in Key Stage 2 will bring home a Reading for Pleasure book. The expectation is to have at least 5 entries per week. Staff will check reading record books weekly.
To complement the offer of Reading for Pleasure and for pupils to read a variety of genres and build up stamina, Christ Church School have introduced a list of Greatest Reads for each Year Group in Key Stage 2 (there is also a list for children with additional needs and for children new to English). Pupils are encouraged to read widely from this list and to complete quizzes, which allow them to earn places on our Greatest Readers Wall.

- **Spellings -** Spelling lists are sent home for all children from Years 1 to 6 weekly, with a weekly spelling test to review progress. Please note, spelling tests may be on different days in different year groups. This will be communicated to parents at the start of the year.
  The National Curriculum word lists are available through school and can be used at home to support spelling knowledge**.**

- **Grammar, Punctuation and Spellings -** Year 6 will receive weekly homework sheets. This is to begin to prepare pupils for transition into secondary school.

- **Maths –** There is a weekly maths home learning focus for children in Years 1 to 4 known as 'Train your Brain'. Children are given a maths focus each week, which will complement the learning that has been done, or is being done, that week in class.
  - Children in Year 5 will receive bi-weekly maths homework sheets, and children in Year 6 will receive weekly maths home learning. This is to begin to prepare pupils for transition into secondary school.
  - All children from Y3 up should be regularly reviewing their times table facts.
  - All children in Key Stage 2 will be issued with logins to Times Table Rock Star. They should aim to use this at least 3 times each week to help them improve their fluency with times tables.

- **Additional challenges** - Throughout the Year teachers may send home additional challenges for children to complete linked to the topics they are learning. They may also be given additional activities for specific events e.g. World Book Day.
  - At Purley Nursery School staff share learning activities and extension questions via Seesaw and encourage children, parents and carers to respond to extend and challenge children's learning and language. Staff encourage parents and carers to regularly share home learning experiences through their individual Seesaw learning journals.
  - Purley Nursery School children are issued with a Record of Achievement file where staff parents and carers regularly add learning celebrations for each individual child across the school. Record of Achievement files are sent home every half term holiday to enable parents and carers to review and add 'child voice' comments, home learning pieces and developmental milestones to celebrate learning successes for children.

- **Reception** - Children in Reception will receive a weekly challenge for parents and carers to complete with their child. The aim of these challenges will be to support different focused areas within the EYFS Framework.

The Role of Parents and Carers in supporting Children

In the federation schools, we value the role of parents and carers and seek to involve them in tasks being undertaken by children at home. It is important that parents and carers appreciate the importance of setting the environment in which

the child can read, explore maths, learn spellings etc. This should be as calm as possible and without the intrusion of television or video games.

Many children need parents and carers or carer support and encouragement to respond to the teacher's direction about tasks to be done at home. Some children find it particularly difficult to settle to any kind of Home Learning and need much more support to apply themselves and persevere at their learning. Developing the capacity to do this is necessary if children are to make good progress. It is important however that the learning at home should not become traumatic. Should this happen parents and carers should speak to their child's teacher for advice as soon as possible.

Parents and Carers can support children in the following ways:

- Read with/listen to your child read regularly. Ask your child questions about the book and the characters within the text or facts from the text.
  There are question prompts in the Little Wandle Books to help.
- Be available to children when doing their Home Learning, to show that it is a valuable activity.
- When doing open-ended home learning challenges, give children as much support as they need with the decision-making process initially. Initially this may involve choosing two ideas from the list provided and asking the child to choose from one of these. As decision-making is an important skill for children to develop, it is vital that parents and carers encourage children to take more responsibility for this until they are able to make sensible decisions and set realistic tasks for themselves.
- Ensure that Home Learning is completed to the best of the child's ability. Please do not do the homework for them. School would rather you spoke to them about the challenges your child found with any homework.
- Ensure that children complete Home Learning each week.
- Provide a calm environment where possible.
- When supporting a child with calculations, follow the school's written calculations policy, available on the website or from the school office or use one of the prompt sheets available from class teachers.
- Discuss, encourage and praise your child's efforts.
- If a child is unable to complete a piece of work, or has lost their reading record please inform the teacher.
- Purley Nursery School parents and carers are encouraged to update their child's Seesaw Learning journal and Record of Achievement folder regularly each half term with learning milestones and experiences to enable personalised learning to take place via their child's key worker.