

Bedgrove Infant School

Believe



Inspire

Shine

Learning at Home Policy

Lead committee:- Curriculum Committee

Last reviewed and approved:- Autumn 2018

Next review date:- Autumn 2020

Aims of the Policy

Our Philosophy:

We know that parents are a child's first teacher and we value their input into their child's education. Talking to their child and enquiring about their day is showing that the adult is interested and places an importance upon their education, even if the child is reluctant to respond. Holding a conversation with their child adds to their vocabulary and helps them to communicate with others and express their ideas. We must all allow time for the developmental needs of children and value sport, music, dancing, drama, hobbies, free time and play. Bedgrove Infant School realises the benefits of working with parents, carers and children and welcomes this partnership. In the case of younger children, it is the involvement of parents and carers in joint activities, which can be very brief, that is most valuable in promoting children's learning.

The school aims to:

- develop the home/school partnership by providing opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work together;
- promote the idea of education as a partnership by providing opportunities for parents and children to enjoy working and learning together;
- provide opportunities to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding;
- maximise resources for learning, of all kinds, at home;
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading;
- help children understand that learning also takes place outside the classroom;
- enable children to raise their levels of achievement;
- ensure that parents are clear on their involvement and understand the expectations for themselves and the pupils; and
- ensure that the needs of individuals are met.

Recommended Time for Homework

The Government no longer sets recommendations for the amount of homework set by schools for their children. Schools can suggest their own guidelines for how parents can support their children's learning out of school.

Each Year Group have determined aspects of learning parents might like to provide opportunities for, at home, to help their child's development.

Foundation 1:

The Foundation 1 team upload an information sheet onto the school website each week to detail the activities that are happening in the Nursery with ideas for the parents to try at home to consolidate and extend this learning.

We recommend that children:

- have a 'bedtime story', nightly

Foundation 2:

The Foundation 2 team update the school website each week with ideas to support the learning occurring in class based on observations of the children's learning.

We recommend that children:

- have a 'bedtime story', nightly

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)

The Year 1 and Year 2 teams will inform parents of the current topics covered in class through the school newsletter and suggest possible activities that could be carried out at home to support this learning.

We recommend that your child:

- is encouraged to read to you each day
- is read a story every night.

The school has video clips of aspects of learning for English and Maths to aid parents in correctly supporting their children in areas such as phonics, number lines, calculations, reading and handwriting. These are uploaded onto the school website for easy access.

Weekly Home Activities

Here is a list of activities that we believe would benefit children to be experiencing at home with their parents to support their learning and development.

Please aim to complete 3-5 of these things each week with your child/children.

Daily reading	Sing Nursery Rhymes
Independently dress myself	Use a climbing frame, in different ways, for 20 minutes
A Lego Challenge	Create with Hammer Beads
Cooking	Spend 10 minutes 'cloud watching'
Going shopping and paying myself	One evening with all electronic devices 'switched off'
Go to the park	Make and play with play dough
Complete a craft activity	Play card games
Do some gardening	Play board games
Join in role play together	Do some painting
Play I-Spy	Make pasta necklaces
Play Simon Says	Go on nature walk
Play 'hangman'	Become a 'nature detective', hunting for certain creatures
Complete some jigsaws	Make and go on treasure hunts
Make a board game	Peg out washing
Make some videos	Complete chores around the house
Draw each other's portraits	Make birthday cards for friends and family
Sew using binca and large needles	Write thank you cards for friends and family

50 Things To Do Before You're 7!

We have created a list of exciting activities that you may not do each week but would expand your child's experiences and learning opportunities.

You might like to keep a record with your child of how many of the things below you can complete with your child before they are 7 years old. NB. Please be aware that these are activities that need parental/adult supervision and support

1. Climb a tree
2. Roll down a really big hill
3. Camp out in the wild
4. Build a den
5. Skim a stone
6. Run around in the rain
7. Fly a kite
8. Catch a fish with a net
9. Eat an apple straight from a tree
10. Play conkers
11. Go on a really long bike ride
12. Make a trail with sticks
13. Make a mud pie
14. Dam a stream
15. Play in the snow
16. Make a daisy chain
17. Set up a snail race
18. Create some wild art
19. Play pooh sticks
20. Jump over waves
21. Pick blackberries growing in the wild
22. Explore inside a tree
23. Visit a farm
24. Go on a walk bare foot
25. Make a grass trumpet
26. Hunt for fossils and bones
27. Go star gazing
28. Climb a huge hill
29. Explore a cave
30. Hold a scary beast
31. Hunt for bugs
32. Find some frogspawn
33. Catch a falling leaf
34. Track wild animals
35. Discover what's in a pond
36. Make a home for a wild animal
37. Check out the crazy creatures in a rock pool
38. Bring up a butterfly
39. Catch a crab
40. Go on a nature walk at night
41. Plant it, grow it, eat it
42. Go swimming in the sea
43. Build a raft
44. Go bird watching
45. Find your way with a map and compass
46. Try rock climbing
47. Cook on a camp fire
48. Learn to ride a two wheeler bicycle...perhaps, even a horse
49. Find a geocache
50. Canoe down a river

Additional Parent Involvement:

- attend any curriculum workshop evening, Open sessions or Drop-Ins to share in the child's learning;
- support your child with specific work programmes, such as Rainbow Road, to further develop dexterity and fine motor skills, in Years 1 and 2.

Additional School Support:

- acknowledge and respond to comments in the Home School Diaries;
- update the school website and include in newsletters any opportunities to share learning and extra-curricular activities.

Summary

We hope you have fun sharing in your child's learning by completing a range of these activities. We have printed them onto a tick box sheet in Appendix 1 if you wanted to create a game/challenge with your child where you try to tick off as many as possible each term. Time to play, being active and not repeating what they have been asked to do in school will support the children's learning in many different ways.

Appendix 1:

Learning at Home Challenge

Activity	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Daily reading						
Independently dress myself						
A Lego Challenge						
Cooking						
Going shopping and paying myself						
Go to the park						
Complete a craft activity						
Do some gardening						
Join in role play together						
Play I-Spy						
Play Simon Says						
Play 'hangman'						
Complete some jigsaws						
Make a board game						
Make some videos						
Draw each other's portraits						
Sew using binca and large needles						
Sing Nursery Rhymes						
Use a climbing frame, in different ways, for 20 minutes						
Create with Hammer Beads						
Spend 10 minutes 'cloud watching'						
One evening with all electronic devices 'switched off'						
Make and play with play dough						
Play card games						
Play board games						
Do some painting						
Make pasta necklaces						
Go on nature walk						
Become a 'nature detective', hunting for certain creatures						
Make and go on treasure hunts						
Peg out washing						
Complete chores around the house						
Make birthday cards for friends and family						
Write thank you cards for friends and family						