



SCHOOL POLICY

Home Learning Policy



Policy Revision Date	12 th June 2025
Review Frequency	Annual
Role / Author	Headteacher/Penny Shaw
Governing Body Committee/HT	HT
Date of GB Meeting /HT review for approval	HT 12 th June 2025
Due with Clerk to Governors (where applicable)	N/A
Governing Body/HT Approval Date	N/A
Next Review date	Summer 2026
Status (draft / approved)	Approved



Policy Review

The following list must be completed prior to submission to the relevant Governing Body meeting/HT for approval.

Links with other Policies	Feedback & Marking Policy, Teaching & Learning Policy
Model or Locally Produced	Locally produced
Are changes to model policy or previous policy clearly identified (e.g. track changes)	Track changes enabled
In the view of the HT is the policy related to High, Medium or Low Risk activity to the school	Medium
What are the likely consequences to school of non-compliance	Implications with parental reputation Impact on pupil outcomes
Are the governors/SLT accountabilities clearly identified	Yes
Are other accountabilities clearly identified	Yes
Are there any particular issues/risks associated with implementation/operation of policy	None identified
How will policy effectiveness be evaluated	Monitoring by SLT within school's monitoring programme and feedback from pupil/parent surveys
How will HT report to governors on effectiveness and when	Within HT report to Curriculum and Standards committee per Governing Body Planner
When will the policy next be due for renewal (for statutory compliance)	N/A
Does the policy impact on available resources	



1. Purpose

The purpose of home learning is to engage children in activities that seek to make effective links between home and school in supporting their learning and development. Elson Junior School offers a range of home learning activities for pupils to engage with.

2. Expectations

Home learning will be set as a regular pattern during term time. Each child will be given a home learning book in which the home learning should be recorded. *There is a different provision for lower school (year 3 & 4) and upper school (year 5 & 6) which is detailed below.* There is no legal requirement to set homework in the Primary phase however we recognise and value the contribution that independent learning has for children. Our approach to the setting of homework has been taken after consultation with parents in our community. We recognise that there is an almost equal split between parents who want their child to have Home Learning activities set and those who don't. Our policy is set to encourage and value children's efforts and aspiration to consolidate their learning in school whilst recognising that not all children will be supported to complete home learning.

3. Lower School Home learning

Year 3 Home Learning Expectations

1. Your child will bring home a colour band book. Each week, they should read their colour band book or a book of their choice at least five times. This should be recorded in their homework books. Colour band book can be changed whenever needed. **Please ensure colour band books are in school every day so they can read it in school.**
2. Your child will bring home their weekly spellings every Friday. Your child should practise their spellings in **their homework book** a few times each week.
3. Your child has their 'Times Table Rock stars' login details in their book. They should be logging into Times Table Rock stars for 15 minutes three times a week and completing some of the challenges.
4. Finally, below is a list of topic homework. It is recommended that at least **3 of these** are completed (one from each challenge section) by the end of the half term (W/B 5th February).

Your child's homework book will be returned every Friday and it will be checked every week. They will receive dojo points for their completed homework.

Year 4 Home Learning Expectations

We would like to invite the children to complete some Home Learning linked to their current topic in school. Each Friday, we will give the children the opportunity to share any home learning challenges they have completed. Homework certificates are also up for grabs if the children:

- Read with an adult for 10 minutes at least four times each week. Please record on in their homework book.
- Practise words from their Spelling List in Homework books at least four times each week using the strategies taught in school. (If you do this verbally, please write a note in the homework book.)
- Complete any of the Times Table Rockstar games four times each week.
- Complete at least four Homework Challenges over the half-term.



4. Upper school home learning

The rationale for the change in the Upper school homework provision is in order to prepare the children for Year 6 and their transition to secondary school and the necessary increased independence in the completion of home learning.

Year 5

1. Your child will bring home a library book. Each week, they should read their library book or a book of their choice at least five times. This should be recorded in their homework books. Library books can be changed whenever needed. **Please ensure library books are in school every day so they can read it in school.**
2. Your child will bring home their weekly spellings each term. Your child should practise their spellings in **their homework book** a few times each week. Children have a spelling test in school each Friday.
3. Your child has their 'Times Table Rock stars' login details in their book. They should be logging into Times Table Rock stars for 15 minutes three times a week and completing some of the challenges.
4. Finally, below is a list of topic homework. It is recommended that at least **3 of these** are completed (one from each challenge section) by the end of the half term (W/B 5th February).

Your child's homework book will be returned every Friday and it will be checked every week. They will receive dojo points for their completed homework.

Year 6

Every week the children will have **one** piece of **maths**, **one** piece of English and the usual spellings home learning. This will be given on **Wednesday** and due the following **Thursday**.

The homework given will reflect the topics that children are learning in school that week. They are not designed to be onerous and lengthy tasks. They should provide an opportunity for you to discuss your child's learning that week and allow them to practise the skills they have been taught.

Homework will be shared as a class to allow the children to discuss any issues or misconceptions with their teachers.

It is **imperative** that your child **reads every day**. The pace and content of the curriculum in school requires them to be able to read at pace and then use that information. The end of year KS2 SATs, across all subjects, requires children to be competent readers who have developed their stamina for reading with concentration and fluency. We cannot stress enough how important it is that children read regularly and widely. Little and often is key.

Every week your child will have an opportunity to visit and spend time in our class library to select their books. The class teachers will be on hand to provide advice and support children with their choices. However, children are welcome to change their books outside of this slot and are encouraged to do so.

Timing expectations for homework:

English and maths homework (approx. 30 minutes for each piece)

Spellings (approx. 5 - 10 minutes per day, 5 days per week)

Reading (approx. 15 – 20 minutes per day)

In addition to the above, each half-term, a range of topic home learning activities will be offered. The activities will have a wide range of challenge and curriculum links and pupils may choose 3 or 4 activities that they would like to do. This topic homework will be handed out to children and it will be available to the children through their Google logins. These half-termly activities may also include our on-line option of Education City and Times Table Rock Stars. Parents are welcome to contact their child's class teacher if they wish to access a copy of this.

5. Recognition and Rewards



All home learning will be logged when received by the class teacher. Teachers will give out team points, stickers and nominate Headteacher Awards for pupils who show good effort with their home learning. For pupils who complete all of their home learning each term, home learning certificates will be awarded by the class teacher.

6. Frequently Asked Questions

- a. How can I help my child?
 - Provide a comfortable and quiet area and choose a time when your child is relaxed and not hurried.
 - Talk through the set tasks and work alongside them, offering support when they need it.
 - Make a game of learning number bonds or spellings: chant as you walk down the street, spot numbers or letters when out and about.
 - Check your child's home learning when they have finished and feel free to write a comment into their home learning book.

- b. What if we do not understand the task?
 - Support your child to re-read the instructions and ask them to recall the lesson from which the work comes. Talking this through often helps them to remember what the task entails.
 - If that does not work, put the task aside, reassure your child that they will not be in trouble and tell them to ask the teacher to re-explain. Feel free to pop in to see the teacher to clarify what needs to be done.
 - Above all do not let your child (or yourself) get anxious or upset.

- c. What if my child is becoming distressed?
 - Stop them from continuing the task and try to find out what the problem is.
 - Reassure them that as long as they try their best, they should not worry if the task is not completed – no-one will tell them off if they try and you let the teacher know.
 - Let the teacher know of any difficulties.

- d. I want extra home learning for my child – what can I give them?
 - Join the library and take your child as often as possible. Encourage them to read widely and choose both fiction and non-fiction books. Ask your child questions about the book they are reading and encourage them to retell the story or recall facts to you that they have read.
 - Help your child to learn their times tables. They should be able to (**by the end of Year 4**) recall all of the times tables up to 12. This includes division related facts as well as multiplication. This mathematical knowledge will be key in supporting children in Year 6 to do well in their SATs assessments.
 - Talk to the teacher if you feel your child needs any extra help.

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Examples of Home Learning Challenges
Year 3 Home Learning Spring 1

Mild Challenge 	Spicy Challenge 	Hot Challenge 
<u>Flag challenge</u> Choose a flag from an African country. Use your artistic skills to create the flag. You could use: Tissue paper, colour pencils, paint, colourful paper or anything else you would like!	<u>Fact File</u> Find out about an African animal and create a fact file about them. This could include: their habitat, diet, life expectancy, how many there are in the wild as well as pictures.	<u>Here and There</u> Find out about an African city and compare it to somewhere you have been in the UK. What are the similarities and what are the differences?
<u>Wicked Weather</u> Find out about the weather in Africa and write your own weather forecast.	<u>Music Challenge</u> Design and make an African musical instrument that you can play to the class. 	<u>Fact file</u> Create a fact file highlighting the issues of cocoa fair trade in Africa. Link this with your geography learning. 

Year 5 Home Learning Challenges – Spring 1 2024

You should complete at least **four** pieces of homework this half-term and at least one must be from the HOT challenge column.

Please bring your home learning book into school every Thursday to show your spelling practice and to show us the learning you have done at home.

Mild Challenge 	Spicy Challenge 	Hot Challenge 
<u>Art</u> Create a picture showing the different phases of the moon throughout <u>its</u> cycle.	<u>Geography/Computing</u> Make a poster using computing software to advertise a visit to Nepal and the Himalayas.	<u>Design Technology</u> This half term, you will be making bread. Design and bake your own bread. Write instructions to explain how you made it.
<u>Poetry</u> Choose a planet to write an acrostic poem about. 	<u>Writing</u> Choose a famous space explorer, either recently like Tim Peake or from history like Neil Armstrong. Write a fact file about him or her including some basic information and some information about their journey into space.	<u>Science</u>  Create your own model of our Solar System. Be as creative as you like – in previous years we have seen: Collages, baking, sewing, 3D models and painting. How could you create yours?
<u>PE</u> In PE this half term, you will be taking part in circuits. Create your own circuit and complete it. Take a picture of your circuits set up.	<u>Well-being</u> Go for a walk and pick up items of nature that you see. Come home and create a collage from these items.	<u>Design Technology</u> Design and make a space rocket for the future. You can use whatever materials you would like.