

**Home Learning Policy**

**2024**

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At Buckminster Primary School, our home learning policy sets out the expected amount of time students should spend on homework each week. We believe that education is a life-long process and a child’s education does not cease when he /she leaves our school premises - learning at home is an essential part of good education.

“Homework” is any work or activity completed outside lesson time, either alone, with parents, or others and homework makes an important contribution to progress at school.

At Buckminster, we are very conscious that homework, for some children, can cause anxiety and stress. We value the importance of learning through family experiences, extracurricular activities, and leisure time. Children need time for play and unstructured time to thrive. This policy values the importance of balance between the time spent on homework and other activities.

**This homework policy is designed:**

* To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
* To extend and support learning
* To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
* To provide a valuable opportunity for children to practise keys skills
* To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the children
* To provide opportunities for parents and children to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences

We do not want home learning to cause difficulties at home or school

**It is our policy to set homework as follows:**

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| **Class** | **Subjects** | **Expected time** |
| **Reception and Year 1** | Reading  Phonics (reception)  Year 1 spelling (Spring term) | 4x 10 minutes  3x 5 minutes  5x 10 minutes |
| **Year 2 and 3** | Reading  Timetables  Spellings | 4x 10 minutes  3x 5-10 minutes  4x 5-10 minutes |
| **Year 4 ,5 and 6** | Reading  Timetables  Spellings  Yr6 Homework (Spring term) | 4x 10 minutes  3x 5-10 minutes (Yr4 5x 5-10minutes)  3 X 5-10 minutes  30-60 minutes |

**Phonics:**

Phonics homework in Reception helps children learn to read and write by teaching them how to recognise letters and sounds and blend them together to form words. Supporting with the teaching and learning of phonics at home, helps to quickly develop children’s word recognition and spelling through developing their ability to hear, identify and manipulate phonemes (the smallest unit of spoken language), and to teach them the relationship between phonemes and the graphemes (written letters or combinations of letters) that represent them.

**Reading:**

One-to-one support is best, and young people benefit most from adult-child conversations where they acquire new vocabulary and language structures to form and share their thoughts and opinions. Please complete the reading diary to keep a record. Each class will have reading challenges over the year, and this diary helps to support this but also comment on anything noticed in the home.

**Spelling:**

Spelling is a key part of learning to write and read. It helps children develop phonological awareness, which is the ability to identify and manipulate sounds in spoken words

**Times tables:**

Learning times tables using Times Tables Rockstars or a paper version if technology is unavailable in the home. Teachers will set fun competitions throughout the year, so the faster you are, the more points you will earn.

**Yr6:**

We believe that transition to high school is so important in Year 6, so to support our children to become more confident and independent learners in the home, they will receive a set task / activity from the spring term onwards. This activity will vary but will be a continuation and/or consolidation of the learning that has taken place in class that week.

**How you can help your child with their home learning:**

Below is a list of ways that you as a parent can show your child that you value their home learning, and the time and effort spent completing it. The school will also provide clear and regular reminders of their expectation when it comes to home learning. As a school we hope that you will find this guidance helpful in supporting your child fully with their home learning.

You can show you value your child’s home learning by:

* providing a suitable place in which your child can do their home learning, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support
* making it clear to your child that you value home learning and support the school in explaining how it can help learning
* encouraging your child and praising them
* checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on home learning