



Creating Learners Without Limits

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Victoria Primary Academy

A Member of Hatton Academies Trust

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Home learning reinforces what your child is learning at the academy. It also gives you a chance to become involved in the learning process. At Victoria we feel it is a vital part of your child's learning and development.

Aims of Home Learning

Home learning at VPA is intended to:

- contribute to the development of an effective partnership between home and school;
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, especially in literacy and numeracy;
- make good use of resources for learning at home;
- extend school learning ;
- encourage children to develop confidence and self-discipline to study on their own;
- Prepare children for future education;

Time Allocation

The time your child spends on homework is less important than his or her understanding of it. But the following is a rough guide to the amount of time he or she should be spending on homework at primary school:

Reception	5 to 10 minutes each day
Years 1 and 2	60 minutes a week
Years 3 and 4	90 minutes a week
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes a day or equivalent over two/three evenings or at the weekend

Tips for Good Home Learning Habits

- Do find a quiet place to use as a home learning area. It needs a flat surface, a good light source and the right equipment eg pens, pencils, ruler, scissors, glue.
- Do be aware of modern teaching methods, eg in long division.
- Do plan a home learning timetable and agree on when your child will do their home learning.
- Do allow your child to have something nutritional to eat before starting on home learning.
- Do discuss any home learning tasks with your child and how it connects with what they are studying at school.
- Do turn off the TV - but you could have music on if they find it helpful.
- Don't give your child the answer in order to get a task finished. Instead, explain how to look up information or find a word in a dictionary.
- Don't teach your child methods you used at school. It could confuse them.

- Don't let home learning become a chore. Keep it fun and make it a special time that you both look forward to.

Role of Pupils

Pupils will derive great benefit from home learning if they:

- listen carefully to the instructions they are given;
- organise themselves effectively to ensure that home learning is completed on time and returned to school as appropriate;
- present their work carefully and try their best;
- discuss their home learning with adults at home

Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers should ensure that:

- making sure that their child reads each day if child is in Reception (EYFS) or key stage 1 (years 1 and 2)
- Make sure that their child reads at least 3 times a week if they are in Key Stage 2 (years 3 to 6). However these are guidelines, children who read regularly every day will make much better progress, enjoy reading and benefit in a wide range of other subjects not just literacy;
- Record their reading in the home reading book to help school staff to monitor the child's reading frequency and progress outside school;
- providing a suitable place for home learning to be done;
- making it clear that they value home learning;
- encouraging and praising their child when home learning is completed;
- being actively involved in home learning activities as appropriate.

Role of Teachers

Each class teacher will ensure that:

- home learning is explained clearly to all children ;
- home learning is set and marked regularly with due consideration for individual ability;
- feedback will be given to the child so that they know how well they have done and how they can improve, marking of homework should create a dialogue between home and school;
- the child's approach to and completion of home learning is monitored and discussed with parents and child;
- liaise with parents if home learning tasks are not completed

Home Learning Format

Home learning tasks are set termly and link to the connected curriculum unit the children are covering in class. A range of tasks are organised into grid from which children can select the learning they wish to complete.

Home learning is organized into four categories:

- English
- Mathematics
- Physical and Creative
- Understanding the World

Children can select the home learning tasks that interest them most from those within the grid. Each grid will also include a section for:

- Daily reading or sounds (Reception, Year One and Year Two)
- Reading at least 3 times each week (Year Three to Year Six)
- Reading Eggs (Reception, Year One and Year Two)
- Athletics (All Pupils)

Points System

For children in Year Three to Year Six a number of points are awarded for the completion of each home learning task. Children will be given a points target to complete before the end of the term. Tasks which require a greater amount of work or research will be awarded a higher number of points. It is expected that all children complete enough home learning to hit their points target. Children who complete their home learning will be awarded with a certificate.

For children in Reception, Year One and Year Two the number of pieces of home learning will be the same as the number of weeks in the term. Children should complete one task each week, but they can select the order they do them in.

Sometimes there may be bonus points available or challenge activities to really get your child's imagination working. Please encourage your child to have a go at these additional tasks.

Handing in Work

Children should hand their home learning book in each week for their learning to be marked and returned. It is important that your child's teacher sees their book regularly in order to offer any support that may be needed. Regular handing in also ensures that your child does not leave all their home learning until the end of the term.

Books for Home Learning

Children will have an exercise book in which to complete their home learning tasks. Some tasks will involve making models and objects, recycled materials are a great solution to making models.

If you have any questions or concerns about home learning please speak to your child's class teacher.