

## Torre Church of England Academy

### HOME LEARNING POLICY

#### Peace, Praise, Potential, Pride, Persevere, Pray

At Torre, the purpose of home learning promotes:

- Good work habits
- A sense of responsibility
- A connection between school and home
- An outlook that learning happens everywhere

Homework will consist of the following:

#### **Reading**

All children at Torre are expected to read a range of books regularly at home. The table below shows expectations for each year group:

Nursery	Share a book from the book corner and/or story sack with a grown up. Share adventures with 'Travelling Ted' when it is the child's turn. Topic linked practical activity (once a term).
Reception	Read regularly at home and/or share a book with an adult. Three entries must be made each week in the blue reading record by an adult. This will be checked.
Year 1	Read regularly at home and discuss the book. Three entries must be made each week in the blue reading record book by the pupil or an adult (please see below). This will be checked. When child is writing the comment (Year 2 upwards), focus on story and characters and why he/she likes or dislikes the book.
Year 2	
Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	

#### **Blue Reading Record book**

Research shows that children who read at home with an adult make accelerated progress in school. Please hear your child read at least three times a week, and write a comment each time in their reading diary.

#### **Spelling**

Children from Year 2 upwards will bring home a small spelling log which will contain words that he/she needs to learn to spell. The children will be working on learning these words at school, so we do not expect parents to teach children how to spell. The words in these spelling logs will be individual to every child, as they are words they are choosing to use in their writing as well as some of the statutory words from the national curriculum. Children will test each other on their ability to spell these words in class. Spelling logs will also be used regularly in class throughout the week with additional spellings being added to the log when appropriate.

### **Times tables**

Children will be taught strategies to learn their times tables at school, but this can be followed up at home by lots of practise. Tips on how to do this are published on the school website. Children in Year 1 will learn to count in 2s, 5s and 10s and children from Year 2 onwards children will be working on times tables.

### **Writing, maths and other subjects (EYFS)**

In nursery, children will be given the chance to borrow a story sack that contains a fiction or non-fiction book, games and activities to share with the family. Travelling ted backpacks are also available, containing a teddy and a book that the parents record the child's adventures through writing and photographs. The nominated children then share this with the class each week.

Once a term, children in nursery will be given a topic based homework, which will be practical task that they can complete with an adult at home. As and when needed, individuals or groups of children may be asked to work on a specific sound at home for some extra practice.

In reception, families will be expected to make entries onto their child's online Tapestry learning journal, to share a special achievement at home.

Once every half term, parents will be asked to talk to their child about a family event/experience and record this on yellow paper. This may include photos and children's illustrations.

### **Writing, maths and other subjects (Year 1 to Year 6)**

Every week, on a Wednesday, homework tasks will be set across the school from year 1 to year 6. All pieces of home-learning will be due to be handed in on the following Monday. In order for home learning to be an integral part of the lessons in school, all pieces of home learning will feed into the work children are doing in class and will be stuck into children's school books.

*There will be a three weekly home learning cycle, which looks like this:*

Week 1 – SOLE

Week 2 – English

Week 3 – Maths

Children will bring home a folder containing a yellow piece of paper explaining the week's home learning task. It should be completed on the yellow paper, which will then be stuck into the relevant exercise book when it is handed in. The different coloured paper will make it clear which work has been completed at school and which at home.

*The tasks will either:*

- Encourage pupils to begin finding out about a new topic at home before we teach it at school; to enable them to feel more ready for new learning
- Consolidate and extend learning that has already taken place in the classroom

Access to the internet will be desirable and we understand that this may be difficult for some families. Therefore, we ensure that children have access to the internet via the use of an iPad during homework club.

Year 5 and Year 6 children may be given additional home learning throughout the year to support in class learning and progress. They will also be given a set of targeted spellings to learn on a weekly basis.

### **Homework Club**

Homework Club takes place one day a week after school in The Harbour Classroom. This club supports families whose children, for a variety of reasons, struggle to complete and return their homework tasks on time. This club is led by two members of the school leadership team. A snack and a drink are served on arrival and pupils are supported in completing their homework tasks.

### **Learning journals**

A summary of the week's learning will be emailed out to all families on a Friday. This will also be posted on the website. Hard copies of the learning journal are available on request from the class teacher. This will enable parents to see what learning has happened during the week at school and will also inform you about what the following week's learning will be focusing on. Parents will be expected to read through this with their child and discuss the week's learning.

### **Website**

The following items will be published on the class pages of the school website:

- Weekly learning journals
- Tips for learning times tables
- Links to useful websites and other resources
- The weekly maths/English/other homework (in case the paper gets mislaid!)
- Tips for practising spellings