



Uryside School

Supporting Learning at Home Statement

At Uryside School, we are refocusing our approach to home learning to ensure learning at home is meaningful, useful, fun and provides parents with opportunities to support and encourage their child in their learning.

Introduction

Parents, carers and other family members can and do make a real difference to children's education. When parents and schools work together, children do better.

Home learning should not be causing your child (or you!) stress or anxiety. The reality for many families is that homework is a flashpoint for tears, tantrums and arguments.

Homework traditionally has consisted of formal set writing tasks. We are living in an exciting period where much educational research on how we learn and best teaching practises is permeating throughout our schools, staffrooms and classrooms. We recognise that...

Learning needs to be engaging

Learning needs to be pupil led

Learning needs to be visible – clear learning intentions and success criteria.

Learning needs to challenge

With this in mind we have reviewed our homework guidance to reflect current research. We have listened to pupil, parental and teacher voice to create home learning activities that involve and inform parents of their child's learning, supports classroom learning and engages children by giving them personal choice and challenge - all of which is highlighted as good practise in 'Curriculum for Excellence'. We want to engage children in learning and provide the child with opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work, and to develop as confident individuals, successful learners, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

Home learning helps your child to:

learn how to organise and manage their time

take more responsibility for their own learning practise and build on what they have learned at school

develop confidence to deal with frustrations,

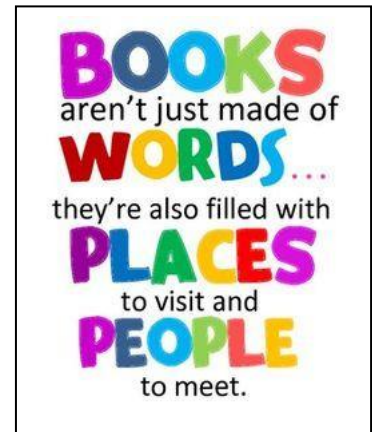
overcome difficulties and solve problems

learn and work independently in the future.

Supporting Home Learning

Reading

Supporting learning tasks will focus on reading across the school and phonics in the early stages. There will be a strong focus on reading all through the school. As children become fluent and independent with set reading, set reading will be reduced and independent reading will be supported.



Preview Learning (Talking Homework)

At the heart of all our schools is our children. We want to provide the best possible learning experiences for our children. As adults, before we participate in a course we explore the expectations and course learning. We would prepare ourselves for the course. It is the same for our children.

Preview learning is where children are informed of the learning prior to the lesson. We wish to share key learning themes with children to provide them with the opportunity to explore learning through everyday activities and with the support of our parents in fun, engaging and meaningful activities.

Our termly newsletters state what the key learning of the term we will and also provide supporting websites or activities that may help.

Benefits of Preview Learning

- Reduces classroom anxiety as children can prepare
- Engages children in their learning through giving children ownership, personal choice and challenge
- Parents are informed and involved in their child's learning

Example Additional Home Learning Tasks

Pupils may be asked to undertake a guided research task to further develop skills in literacy and skills in learning as part of - and in preparation for - transition to secondary education. Children will be supported to time manage this task in preparation for academy life.

Children may be asked to prepare a short presentation or talk.

In January all classes will be given a Scottish poem to learn and recite in school as part of our Scottish language celebrations.

Children will be asked to share their out of school achievements to contribute to their learning journeys or learning profiles.

All set home learning tasks and guided home learning will be shared in termly newsletter.

We appreciate that at times your child may find an area of learning tricky and you and your child would like additional support activities at home. This would be arranged with class teacher where it was felt appropriate.

Reviewed November 2019

COVID 19 Appendix

Home learning will change for all pupils at Uryside School. Each week staff will post 1 piece of maths homework and 1 piece of literacy homework (reading, spelling, grammar etc..) We are strongly advising that all pupils and parents complete these tasks each week.

Lockdown and the months of home /online learning have had a significant impact of the Education of pupils. Many dropping below expectations as a result of the COVID pandemic. However, it has also seen a significant rise in parental interest and engagement with pupil's learning. We aim to harness both of these examples: to extend and support each pupil's education but also support parents in helping them to support their child's learning at home.

Each Friday, classes will post a preview learning video for maths, there will also be an accompanying task. The video contains a full explanation of the maths concept being taught as well as support for completing the worksheet that goes alongside it. This will inform parents of how best to support their child's maths learning that week as well as prepare the pupils for maths related work happening the following week in school.

Regular reading practice is vitally important in developing your child's literacy skills in school. As well as developing a life long love of reading. Regular reading practice can improve your child's spelling, vocabulary, sentence structure and development of taught writing.

In summary:

Each Friday 1 piece of maths preview learning will be uploaded onto SeeSaw. This will include an explanation video and related task. Your child should complete this task in preparation for the learning they will receive in school. The task should be completed on SeeSaw and posted back to the class teacher for feedback.

Regular reading practice will posted on SeeSaw. This may come from an ebook, reading book sent home or comprehension passage or extract. Regular practice aids development in literacy skills.

Class teachers may also post spelling activities to practise, online challenges, preparation homework (e.g. for class talks, research, writing tasks). Longer time frames may be given for some of these tasks.

Should we have to return to a period of home/online learning, many of these tasks will be used so parents and pupils will be used to accessing them and also more comfortable with the approach.

Homework should not be burden and add further pressure and stress to family life, our aim is to use it to enhance the education of all of our pupils. Too much time was lost in school following a long period of lockdown, we are seeking the support of our families to support us again and engage with regular home learning tasks. These could have a big impact of your child's education.

October 2020.