

Oreston Community Academy – Home Learning

At Oreston Community Academy we believe home learning is 'an essential part of good education that supports children's development as independent learners'. We believe that home learning is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning. We value the effectiveness of home learning when used to practise and apply concepts previously learnt in school.

Reading: This is an essential life skill and we believe this opens up the world of learning. In order for your child to succeed, we request all children read daily or hear someone read to them so they are practising their fluency and comprehension.

Reading in Foundation and Key Stage One: Reading on a regular basis is vital. Children will bring their reading books home every evening, and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words i.e, using their phonics knowledge and 'Fred Talk' to sound words out, looking at the pictures and looking for words within words; these are ways in which the child can read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that the child has understood what they have read. Children will have a reading log which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read.

Reading in Key Stage Two: Children may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves, in the presence of an adult. The story and characters should be talked about and new words discussed. Older children need a clear understanding of the text, which sometimes will go beyond the literal meaning. Children will read texts that are more detailed and will take longer to read. They should be encouraged to read all types of texts including non-fiction. Parents should check their child's reading log to show that they have read to an adult or had a discussion about the book.

Spellings and Phonics: Children are provided with a set of spellings which are taught and practised within the school day. To make the best possible progress, children are required to continue learning these words at home so they can transfer this knowledge into their writing. Phonics will be based around what the children will be learning in class.

Other Home Learning: Other home learning links to the children's class theme with creative tasks designed to develop and enhance all styles of learning. The children are encouraged to take ownership of this learning. Children will have a choice of 3 activities to choose from every 3 weeks. This is to provide children with a choice of task to encourage motivation and a love of learning. The children will have 3 weeks to complete these in a style they wish to show their creativity and passion for a subject.

Family Homework: Each half term, children will be set the same piece of home learning. This home learning is open ended and allows families and siblings to work on a project or complete an activity together such as autumn walks, attend an event etc. This will provide opportunities for you to enjoy family time together while sharing in your child's learning.



Oreston Community Academy

To achieve the safest, happiest, most caring and well-ordered environment possible, to maximise the achievement of every individual.

Home School Agreement

The Aims of our School

Safe – Happy – Included – Learning

- We will encourage our children to develop as individuals, acquiring a set of moral values and beliefs upon which to base their own behaviour and show respect to others.
- We will develop the partnership between all members of the school community, as effectively as possible.
- We will maintain consistently high standards and expectations of teaching, learning and behaviour through positive relationships based on honesty and trust.
- We will provide a supportive environment where individuals are valued and where personal and professional development needs of pupils and staff are met.
- We will develop the children's self-confidence, independence and understanding of themselves and others, so that as adults they can play a fulfilling role in a constantly changing multicultural society.
- We will encourage children to look after our piece of the world and make our school a valued and active part of the community.
- We will create and foster a sense of family, sharing our strengths as a team.
- We will offer each child a broad, balanced and stimulating range of curricular and extra-curricular activities to enable them to achieve his or her full potential.

Working together to help our children at Oreston Community Academy

Agreement for the Pupils:

I will do my best to:

- work hard and listen carefully to instructions;
- come to school every day and be on time;
- keep to the **school rules** agreed by School Council and have high expectations of my behaviour;
 - I will show mutual respect to children and staff
 - I will come to learn and will show pride in my work
 - I will care for everyone's safety and their things
 - I will look after the school and its equipment
 - I will use kind hands and friendly words
 - I will take my turn and listen to other people
 - I will be part of the team
- look after others when they need me;
- be polite, helpful and respectful to other children and adults;
- do my homework regularly and bring it back to school on time;
- wear the school uniform and follow the dress code;
- understand that my hairstyle is not allowed to include tram lines, excessive hair accessories or colour;
- make sure that my nail varnish is removed and I do not wear any jewellery other than plain stud earrings and a watch;
- bring all the equipment I need every day;
- bring the correct PE kit to school;
- represent the school well when on visits or trips;
- take an active part in daily physical activities in order to keep healthy.

Agreement for the Parents/Carers:

To help my child at school, I will do my best to:

- make sure my child arrives at school on time ready to learn and is collected on time;
- make sure my child attends school regularly and inform the school of any absences before 9am and inform the school of any alternative pick up arrangements before 2pm;
- support the school in maintaining high expectations of behaviour;
- support my child with homework and other home learning opportunities including listening to my child read;
- attend open evenings/parents evening to maintain strong links between home and school;
- ensure my child wears the correct school uniform and brings the correct PE Kit to school;
- encourage my child to make healthy food and lifestyle choices;
- support the activities of the Parent and Friends of Oreston Academy (PFOA);
- show consideration to our school community and the safety of all whilst dropping off and picking up my child;
- read the weekly newsletter to keep up to date with key events and information;
- inform the school if there are any problems/changes in circumstance that may affect my child's ability to learn;
- follow our healthy schools' policy for breaktimes and lunchtimes and make sure the school drink is water in a clear bottle;
- check my child's bag daily and complete all forms on time to allow my child to participate fully in activities that enrich their curriculum;
- promoting a strong and positive relationship with the school discussing any issues directly avoiding the use of social media.

Agreement for the School:

The school will do its best to:

- encourage children to do their best at all times;
- expect the best effort from children in behaviour and work;
- inform parents or carers regularly how their child is progressing;
- inform children, parents or carers what the teacher aims to teach the children for each theme;
- to ensure the safety, happiness and self-confidence of all children;
- be open, welcoming and happy to meet parents at times suitable for all, encouraging you to become involved in the life of the school;
- achieve high standards of behaviour through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility;
- set, mark and monitor home tasks regularly in line with the homework policy;
- contact parents or carers as soon as possible if we are concerned about your child's work or behaviour;
- contact parents or carers if there is a repeated problem concerning your child's attendance and punctuality;
- offer a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum that meets the needs of all children;
- encourage your child to make healthy choices in terms of the food they eat and physical activity they undertake;
- support sustainable choices about our use of energy including the way we travel to school;
- monitor the progress of your children closely and work together to ensure that your child is able to reach their full potential in all areas of the curriculum;
- offer clubs afterschool to provide opportunities for your child to become part of the wider life of the school.