

# SCAWSBY SALTERSGATE INFANT SCHOOL



## HOME LEARNING POLICY

<b>Policy Approved by Governors</b>	<b>April 2024</b>
<b>Review Date</b>	<b>April 2026</b>

At Saltersgate Infant School we view home learning as being any supported or independent activity undertaken outside of curriculum time which reinforces, extends or enriches current learning. It provides opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning and enables children to practise and consolidate skills. We recognise that activities undertaken at home can broaden the context of learning and provide enrichment and extension.

### **The purpose of home learning is to;**

- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading
- exploit resources and opportunities for learning in the home, e.g. tipping out a piggybank and counting what is in it, or weighing things on the kitchen or bathroom scales
- encourage pupils as they grow older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to become independent learners
- develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers involving them actively in their children's learning

Home Learning will often be varied and of a practical nature. Short activities - simple games, learning spellings and number facts and reading together - provide the opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment. It is the involvement of parents and carers in joint activities which is most valuable in promoting children's learning. Information about topics covered in class is sent to parents at the beginning of each term and is available on our website.

We value the experiences children have outside of school and actively encourage the parents/carers to share the children's learning through Seesaw. Further information is given to parents in the Autumn term. Throughout our school, we continue to encourage the children to share activities and experiences completed outside of school with their teachers and peers.

### **The role of the school**

The school has a responsibility to set home learning tasks which are interesting, at the right level and linked to the current learning in class.

Class teachers will ensure that home learning is properly planned and organised so that;

- the tasks that they are set are realistic and achievable within the time available
- the tasks are clearly related to the work children are doing in the school
- children are given feedback on their home learning and good work is acknowledged and praised.

At Saltersgate Infant School we recognise that not all of our pupils have access to resources and equipment to help them complete their home learning tasks. In order to overcome this,

small packs of resources (number lines, pencils, etc.) are available to parents and carers if needed.

## **Seesaw**

At Saltersgate Infant School, we use Seesaw as an online tool for teachers and pupils to record and share what's happening in the classroom, and during home learning. Seesaw provides every child a safe and secure e-learning journal where photos, videos or pieces of work can be uploaded and viewed using a unique code sent to parents/carers. Families are notified when there has been a new post uploaded to their child's personal journal. Parents/carers can also upload work from home to share with the class teacher. Announcements of important school information can also be sent safely, easily and securely via Seesaw allowing communication with families and teachers to be more efficient.

When teachers and families work together, outcomes improve. We use Seesaw because it supports strong relationships between teachers, our pupils, and families. Together, we can support and celebrate your child's learning inside and outside the classroom!

Seesaw;

- Makes your child's thinking and learning visible so we can see and celebrate their growth over time
- Opens communication between home and school, so we can share ideas to best support your child's learning at home and at school
- Gives your child an authentic audience for their work -- you! -- which motivates them to do their best

Parents wishing to discuss specific instances with teachers are politely asked **not** to contact the class using their child's Seesaw journal.

## **EYFS**

All children across EYFS are given a Knowledge Organiser at the start of each term. This indicates the teaching and learning foci for the term ahead, highlights key vocabulary and includes home-learning suggestions to support children's knowledge and understanding for the term ahead.

For children in Reception classes, home learning will focus on learning to read. We have a long-held and well established Home-School Reading Programme. Every child is given a reading book and encouraged to read regularly. Parents reading stories to children or children reading out signs or notices on the way to and from school counts as reading home-learning too!

### **Year One and Year Two:**

Knowledge Organisers are also used across Key Stage One to further support children's knowledge and understanding in units of learning. Sequences of learning are clearly identified to enable parents/carers to see how previous learning in a subject is being built upon in the new unit.

Children in KS1 may also be given differentiated home learning based on their current learning in class. In addition to regular reading, children may be given a phonics pattern to practice or spellings to learn. Further information about these tasks will be shared via Seesaw.

### **Inclusion**

At Saltersgate Infant School, we ensure that home learning activities are accessible for all our children and provides for a range of learning styles. We will ensure that differentiation is effective and where necessary, will put specific intervention in place to ensure that all children can achieve to their full potential.

### **The Role of Parents and Carers in Supporting Pupils**

We believe that the support of parents and carers is essential for children to make the most of their home learning opportunities. There are many ways in which parents can help their children, for example, by;

- encouraging and supporting them
- playing games with them, practising counting and number work, listening to children read
- providing somewhere quiet for children to study away from the TV and other distractions
- providing opportunities for real life experience; talking, shopping, using money, telling the time, cooking, letter writing etc.
  - make it clear to pupils that they value home learning, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
  - praise children for their efforts and achievements

If there is a problem regarding home learning, we encourage parents to get in touch with the class teacher. Similarly, if we have problems we shall contact the parents.

Advice is given to parents through communications such as via leaflets, meetings, displays of work and teacher's comments on Seesaw. Written guidance is provided for parents on listening to children read and all parents are invited to attend a talk which outlines the school's approach to the teaching of reading and writing, and ways in which parents can best

help their child at home. Information can also be found on the school website. These talks take place in the Autumn term.

### **Arrangements for Monitoring and Evaluating Policy**

There is a need for consistency of approach across each year group and good practice, particularly with regard to the setting, monitoring and marking of home learning. To this end, home learning assignments are recorded on Year Group planning documents and/or via Seesaw.

The Senior Leadership Team check that home learning is being set through scrutiny of year group short term planning, Seesaw posts and pupil voice.