



Lydbrook Primary School

School Road, Lydbrook, Gloucestershire, GL17 9PX

Head Teacher: Mr Simon T Lusted, M.Sc.



ROBINS NURSERY

17th April 2023

Dear Parents/carers

I have put together a bundle of information that I hope will help to clarify the expectations we have to work together to support your children in being the very best that they can be and to make every moment count. There are some basic “expectations” that make such a difference to the learning of the children.

I am re-issuing the Home School Agreement and I would like parents/carers and children to read it through together. Please can you sign it to show that you have read it and send it back into school.

I have also included the school’s Homework policy to confirm the expectations for each class. By setting homework it allows parents to keep informed of the key basic skills that support learning and to build an understanding of how homework can benefit and to prepare children for the higher expectations at the end of primary and into secondary.

“Between the pages of a book is a special place to be”

The main priority for homework is **reading** and to practice reading aloud to an adult to support accuracy, fluency and expression. Sometimes it is also good for the adult to model to the child how to read the text. As the child gets older and develops independence in their reading, more time should be spent reading for enjoyment. However, it is still important for these children to read aloud occasionally to ensure they are putting expression into their reading and are reading at the correct pace.

It is expected that all children read at least **FOUR** times a week using the scheme books provided from school until your child becomes a “free” reader. The scheme books are designed to provide a structure to develop your child’s reading progressively over time. To indicate that your child has read to an adult it needs an adult signature in the reading record book. These record books are collected in on a Monday to check on how the reading is going at home. To provide an extra incentive the school council have reflected on how we can reward the children’s engagement with reading and have come up with lots of lovely ideas. Every time your child can show in their reading record book that they have read to an adult **FOUR** times in the week, they will be awarded a raffle ticket. A draw in each class will be made at the end of the summer term for a special prize. The class with the most reads will be announced each week in Friday assembly and an extra playtime will be given to this class. The teachers and myself will also look at the child’s engagement in reading when looking at the Headteacher’s certificate nominations at the end of each term. Therefore there are many reasons for your child to get involved in the important life skill of reading!

We also provide many opportunities to read in school as we know it makes such a difference to a child’s life chances.

Reading is such an important life skill. Please read the quotes below to emphasise how important learning to read is.

“While learning discrete reading skills is vital, research into reading shows that developing positive attitudes towards reading can also play a key role in children’s development”

"The active encouragement of reading for pleasure should be a core part of every child's curriculum entitlement because extensive reading and exposure to a wide range of texts make a huge contribution to students' educational achievement" (All party Parliamentary Group for Education)

"The advantages of reading for pleasure go beyond academic achievement. Other benefits include an increased breadth of vocabulary, pleasure in reading later life, a better understanding of other cultures, better general knowledge and even a greater insight into human nature" (National Literacy Trust)

"Research has found that children who read often at the age of 10 perform better than their peers in tests of spelling, vocabulary and even mathematics when tested at the age of 16"


"Children who read for pleasure have enhanced levels of text comprehension, an increased knowledge of grammar and show improvement in their writing"

"Young people who enjoy reading very much are three times as likely to read above the level expected for their age (National Literacy Trust 2016)".

Our approaches to reading have been recently added to the website under curriculum/reading. Please take the opportunity to learn more about how we approach reading within the school day

Please try and support your child at home. It will make such a difference to their progress and life opportunities! If you would like any advice on how to help your child with reading at home please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you in anticipation for your support. Your help will make so much difference to your child.



Mr. S. T. Lusted
Head

Lydbrook Primary School

Home-School Agreement

“Anything is Possible”

VISION STATEMENT

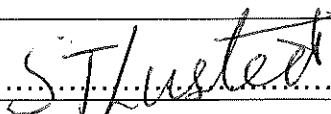
On leaving Lydbrook Primary School our children should feel confident, valued, prepared for the next stage of education and able to make a positive contribution to their community

Lydbrook Primary School's home-school agreement is a statement explaining the school's responsibilities towards its pupils, the responsibilities of the pupils' parents and what the school expects of its pupils. By all working together, we can help the children get the most out of their primary school years and prepare them well for their future.

As a school we will:

- Provide a safe, secure and happy environment.
- Develop pupils' self-confidence, independence and responsibility.
- Meet the individual needs of each child.
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum that develops each child's potential.
- Encourage each child to do their best at all times.
- Keep you, as parents, informed about all school matters and about each child's progress.
- Set homework that is appropriate to the needs of each child as stated in our Homework Policy.
- Be open and welcoming and offer opportunities for parents to become involved in the life of the school.

Head Teacher's Signature.....



As parents and carers we will:

- Make sure our child arrives at school properly equipped and appropriately dressed (including the correct PE kit) from 8.45 a.m. and no later than 8.55 a.m. (with the understanding that the child will be marked late if not in by 8.55 a.m.)
- Inform the school on the first morning by 9.15am of our child's absence and provide an explanation for the absence.
- Try to walk our children to school
- Avoid taking holidays during term time.
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect our child's work or behaviour.
- Support the school's policies and guidelines for behaviour.
- Support our child in homework tasks and activities as laid out in the Homework Policy
- Attend parents' evenings and discussions about our child's progress.
- Get to know about our child's life at school.

Parents' Signature.....

AND

as a pupil I will always try to do:

MY BEST!

Pupils' Signature.....

LYDBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEARNING AT HOME POLICY
“Anything is Possible”

Revision Record of Published Versions			
Author	Revision Date	Version	Status
Lydbrook Primary	December 2016	1.0	Reviewed and updated by staff
Lydbrook Primary	January 2019	2.0	Reviewed and updated by staff
	January 2023	3.0	Reviewed & updated

Rationale – Why give homework?

We believe that our children should be encouraged to undertake homework at an appropriate level. This is because:

- Learning is not something that just goes on in school.
- It is a great opportunity to practise key skills such as reading, number bonds & times tables, spellings and other key facts to develop fluency
- It consolidates learning and helps progress
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning.
- It encourages children and parents to understand that learning is something for which they too have responsibility.
- It encourages shared opportunities between adult and child increases parental interaction.
- It can be a great source for gathering topic information to share with all the children.
- It promotes independence

AND

- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Reading Record Book

Reading is very much a key skill that supports learning in all areas. Reading is taught in school through whole class, groups and on an individual basis. The children are encouraged to enjoy reading as a life-long opportunity and to develop a love of reading. We also expect children to read at home to an adult 4 times a week. This is to develop the skill of accuracy, rate and fluency. **Each time a parent/carer hears their child read, the adult is required to record it and sign it in the provided Reading Record book as proof that your children have completed their homework task.** We also welcome parental comments about the reading they have heard.

A register is taken every Monday morning and a record taken for every child on how many reads they have completed. Without the adult signature, we cannot record a read. If your child regularly does not complete their reading homework, then it is not helping them to learn appropriately and contact will be made with the child's parent/carer to see if the situation can be improved.

Homework Schedule

At Lydbrook School, we believe that homework should focus on the basic skills that need to be consolidated through regular practice. The following schedule therefore includes reading, spelling and number. From time to time teachers may also send home activities related to the learning theme.

As a guide, homework tasks should last no longer than 15 minutes for Owls, 20 minutes for Magpies and Jays and about 30 minutes for Hawks.

Class	Subject	Activities	Frequency (when)
Owls 15 minutes daily	Literacy	Reading – to be signed by an adult	4 times a week
		English activity to support spelling & phonics	1 a week
	Numeracy	Maths activity to support the Maths Passport	1 a week

<p>Magpies</p> <p>20 minutes daily</p>	<p>Literacy</p> <p>Numeracy</p>	<p>Reading – to be signed by an adult</p> <p>Spellings. Common Exception Words and spelling patterns to be practised on Spelling Shed.</p> <p>Maths Passports</p> <p>My Maths</p>	<p>4 times a week</p> <p>To be practised in two ten minute sessions per week</p> <p>3 times a week for 10 minutes.</p> <p>Set on a Wednesday and to be completed by the following Wednesday (no more than 20 minutes).</p>
<p>Jays</p> <p>20 minutes daily</p>	<p>Literacy</p> <p>Numeracy</p>	<p>Reading to be signed by an adult.</p> <p>Spellings. Common Exception Words and spelling patterns to be practised on Spelling Shed.</p> <p>Maths Passports</p> <p>My Maths</p>	<p>4 times a week for at least 10 minutes.</p> <p>To be practised in two ten minute sessions per week</p> <p>3 times a week for 10 minutes.</p> <p>Set on a Monday and to be completed by the following Monday (no more than 20 minutes).</p>
<p>Hawks</p>	<p>Literacy</p> <p>Numeracy</p>	<p>Reading to be signed by an adult.</p> <p>Spellings. Common Exception Words and spelling patterns to be practised on Spelling Shed.</p> <p>Maths Passports</p> <p>My Maths</p>	<p>4 times a week for at least 15 minutes.</p> <p>To be practised in two ten minute sessions per week</p> <p>3 times a week for 10 minutes.</p> <p>Set on a Friday and to be completed by the following Thursday (no more than 30 minutes).</p>

Role of the Teacher

To support learning at home teachers need to:

- Set homework taking into account the age and ability of the child.
- Explain the expectations for the homework set.
- Give timely feedback to the pupils.
- Monitor completion of homework.

Role of the Parent/carer

We believe that parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to progress and achieve. Parents can support this by:

- Supporting and encouraging their child to complete their homework to the best of their ability in the time given.
- Signing your child's reading book.
- Contacting the school as soon as possible if you have any concerns regarding the homework.
- Attending curriculum sessions to learn how to support their child's learning.
- Attending Parent's Evenings to discuss their child's progress.

Role of the Pupil

To support learning at home each pupil, dependent on age, will try to:

- Ensure homework is taken home.
- Understand the homework expectations and ask for clarification at school if needed.
- Complete their homework to the best of their ability in the time given.
- Get their reading record book signed by a parent.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. It will be amended following thorough discussion between members of the school community taking into account the success criteria described above.