Copnor Primary School

Homework Policy

Governing Body approval gained in October 2026 Next review October 2027	
Policy proposed for adoption by Matt Johnson, Headteacher	
Headteacher's signature:	Chair of Committee signature:

Intent

At Copnor Primary School, we believe that home learning should strengthen the essential foundations for lifelong learning. Our approach is designed to develop the two core skills that have the greatest impact on children's academic success: reading and number facts fluency.

Regular reading enables children to access the full curriculum, expand their vocabulary, improve comprehension skills and develop a love of learning. Strong reading habits support achievement across all subject areas and contribute positively to children's cognitive development, attention and concentration as well as attainment across the curriculum.

Similarly, secure knowledge of number facts provides the foundation for more complex mathematical learning. Rapid recall of key addition, subtraction and multiplication facts allows children to solve problems efficiently and apply their mathematical understanding with confidence.

Our home learning policy aims to:

- Foster positive and consistent learning habits at home.
- Strengthen partnerships between school and families.
- Develop children's independence and responsibility for learning.
- Ensure all pupils practise the fundamental skills that underpin future success.
- Provide meaningful opportunities for families to engage with children's learning.

Implementation

Home Learning at Copnor Primary School is intentionally focused on the development of reading fluency and mathematical fluency, as evidence consistently demonstrates that these skills provide the strongest foundations for future learning. The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) highlights that homework is most effective when it has a clear purpose, is linked directly to classroom learning and focuses on developing specific knowledge and fluency.

Short, focused tasks completed regularly are more effective than lengthy activities. enabling children to strengthen their knowledge, build automaticity and become more confident learners.

Reading

From September 2026 all pupils are expected to read at least four times each week. Reading fluency is a key component of successful reading, enabling pupils to recognise words accurately and automatically so that they can focus on understanding and interpreting the text.

Home reading diaries will focus on the development of expression, smoothness, speed and understanding alongside successfully segmenting and blending sounds for the younger children. Early Literacy Guidance (EEF) highlights the importance of securing phonological awareness and decoding skills as the foundations of becoming a successful reader. EYFS children will focus on learning phonics and applying this to reading.

Number fluency

Alongside reading, all Key Stage 1 & 2 pupils are expected to complete a minimum of twenty minutes of maths practice each week. Fluency and automatic recall of number facts are critical because they reduce cognitive load, allowing pupils to focus their attention on mathematical reasoning and problem solving. The EEF's mathematics guidance emphasises the importance of developing a rich network of mathematical knowledge and securing key facts so that pupils can draw upon them efficiently when tackling more complex concepts.

Key Stage 1 pupils will use NumBots to develop fluency in addition and subtraction facts, while pupils in Key Stage 2 will use Times Tables Rock Stars to build rapid and accurate recall of multiplication and division facts. These platforms provide regular retrieval practice and repetition, helping pupils commit key number facts to long-term memory. Alternative paper-based resources will also be available to ensure equal access for all pupils.

Curriculum Project

Annually, each year group will complete one curriculum-linked home learning project. These projects are designed to promote independence, curiosity and creativity while strengthening links between home and school. Pupils will be given an extended period to complete their project before showcasing their learning through a year group exhibition attended by parents and carers.

Impact

Recognising the importance of parental engagement, the school will continue to provide opportunities for families to participate in learning activities alongside their children establishing positive learning habits. Information regarding such opportunities will be communicated through newsletters, email and social media channels.

Through this home learning policy, alongside strengthening the connection between home and school learning, we aim to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to:

- Develop strong and consistent reading habits.
- Improve reading fluency, comprehension and vocabulary.
- Secure key number facts and increase mathematical fluency.

- Build confidence, independence and resilience as learners.
- Experience success across the wider curriculum through improved literacy and numeracy skills.

This approach ensures home learning remains purposeful, manageable and evidence-informed, focusing on the knowledge and skills that will have the greatest impact on pupils' long-term success.