



Provision policy

Approved by	
Approved on	
Review date	

Signed..... Role.....

Ownership: Improvement Comittee

Aims

At Stockbridge Primary & Pre-School, we aim to create learners for life. That is to equip our children with the skills they will need to be active citizens in their world who will thrive and approach life with the core skills.

By creating learners for life, children from Stockbridge Primary School will...

...be independent, enquiring and innovative learners who challenge themselves to always do better and find out more about the world around them.

They are learners for life who are emotionally literate and show enterprising qualities which give value to others.

The whole community of staff, governors and parents are dedicated and motivated to make this happen for every child.

Our school values underpin all that we do in school; our curriculum work, spiritual, social, moral and cultural (SMSC) learning and how we behave. All adults model this and actively tell children when they are living these values so that the language of learning is based on these four values and is everyday 'currency' in our school and at home. The values are our way of enacting our aims in a practical context for children and giving them the language and understanding of our aims.



If we are resourceful learners we...

- Use what we already know
- Ask good questions
- Imagine and picture things in our minds
- Use the resources around us
- Look for patterns and connections



If we are collaborative learners we...

- Share our thoughts and ideas
- Agree to disagree
- Compromise
- Consider what others say
- Include everyone
- Take turns
- Encourage and support others
- Listen to each other and respond appropriately



If we are respectful learners we...

- Show good listening skills
- Be ready to learn and allow others to learn
- Look after what's around us incl. property
- Show kind actions
- Respect yourself
- Respect & value other's differences
- Watch, Walk, Wait



If we are resilient learners we...

- Stick at it, even when it's tough
- Learn from our mistakes
- Try new strategies and are not afraid to start again
- Break big problems into small ones
- Manage distractions



If we are responsible learners we....

- Make our own decisions
- Know how what we do impacts on others
- Take control (and know when to share it)
- Set a challenge for ourselves in our work
- Can show how far we are towards our target
- Consistently work at the top of the effort mountain



If we are proud learners we...

- Always try better than our best
- Produce something of quality which is better than we might have done in the past
- Use words and phrases which match our age and might be new to us
- Smart in the way we present ourselves to others
- Know our actions reflect on others and how they might perceive us as a whole

The aims of this policy are to explain and exemplify the consistency which is crucial to a successful school experience for all children. It is called a provision policy as it encompasses the key aspects of provision for all of our children and sets the standard for a basic entitlement for all to high quality learning.

Along with our [code of conduct \(Appendix A\)](#) which focuses on standards expected by the school in terms of staff conduct and safeguarding. Alongside this, all adults should follow this teaching and learning policy. Teachers (including Learning Support Assistants) will be able to teach effectively and as a result, Learners will be able to learn efficiently and effectively.

Inclusion for all and personalisation of the curriculum and learning are key at Stockbridge Primary School in order to achieve consistently high achievement and attainment. High attainment and achievement are relentlessly pursued and rigorously monitored to ensure no child is left behind and the gap between the lowest achievers and the highest achievers is narrowing.

The complex nature of teaching and learning draws on all of our provision to be of the best quality. This policy therefore combines everything that we can have an influence on, which cumulatively forms our provision at Stockbridge Primary & Pre-School which will help us achieve our aims. The following aspects will be covered in the policy:

- Curriculum
- Assessment
- Planning
- Feedback and marking
- Special Educational Needs
- Learning Environment
- Homework
- Principles for teaching and learning

Key elements of

We expect all teaching to be good or better. No child deserves less.

The term 'Teachers' in our school represents Teachers and Learning Support Assistants as both groups of adults have an influence over children's learning and are actively involved in parts of the learning process.

In order to secure good or better teaching, we have designated the following as key elements of good teaching that ALL Teachers must follow at every opportunity.

All adults should.....Smile!

This sounds so simple but its effect cannot be underestimated. Every day is a new day. Every session is a new session. A smile encourages children to have a go, be resilient, try again...all the things that our values encourage. If behaviour needs addressing, it should be done in line with the school's behaviour policy and the incident addressed. Learning must then continue and a smile helps to put things back on track.

All lessons should have..... clear learning and well planned success criteria

- ★ Learning Objectives should be displayed on the flipchart/piece of large paper etc available throughout the lesson (not just on the IWB where screens are changed and moved on from during the lesson)
- ★ Success criteria should be displayed along with the learning objective.
- ★ Children should know what they are learning (not just 'doing') and how they will be successful
- ★ Success criteria will be broken down into smaller steps to success and, where appropriate, success criteria should be derived from the children.
- ★ Both learning and steps to success should be referred to throughout the lesson and children's work used to illustrate the success criteria in action.

All lessons should be..... clearly differentiated

- ★ Each learner should be challenged appropriately
- ★ Planning should reflect the differentiation; this should normally be more sophisticated than 'by outcome'
- ★ Some differentiation may be based on choice of levels of learning by the children using the 'mild' 'medium' or 'spicy' method of differentiation.
- ★ Should a child choose a level which is too high or too low, they should be allowed to attempt it first and the teacher monitor progress, intervening when necessary to adapt learning 'in the moment'

All pupils should receive..... clear and accurate feedback which moves learning on

- ★ Feedback IN LESSON should be timely and ensure children's next steps are immediately addressed
- ★ If a discussion with a Teacher has taken place, evidence of improvement should be evident.
- ★ Growing greens (see marking policy) should be given time each day to address and improve upon – these may be verbal but should be indicated on the work somewhere
- ★ Marking should be linked to the Learning Objective and Success Criteria
- ★ Marking will be addressed to pupils
- ★ All pupils, with no exceptions, should be clear about their next steps and what they need to do to improve.
- ★ APP for maths and Levelling Criteria for writing is accurate and used to inform teaching and learning

Teaching & learning are not the same. Encountering information is not the same as understanding it.

Phase 1 – Overview

A short period of the lesson which:

Sets the atmosphere for learning

Links the lesson to prior learning

"share with your talk partner what you learnt last lesson" or "3 most important things you learnt last time."

Provides an overview – puts lesson into the bigger picture

"in this topic we're...so today we're focusing on..."

Is when Learning objectives and success criteria are established.

"by the end of the lesson you will know/be able to/ understand..."

Use child friendly language – no point otherwise!

Write them down – on paper/flip chart

Stimulate curiosity and thinking

You won't do this if they sit and listen for 20 mins!!

Phase 2 – receive new information

Think Shirley Clarke lesson starters – how can you engage children from the off?

Demonstration, role model, ICT, diagrams, books, video clips. What you do in this phase ultimately determines the success of your lesson

Keep it short! No more than 15 mins

Pupils remember more from the beginning of an experience. By keeping input short, you're creating lots of beginnings.

Punctuate with questions

Closed questions check understanding, open questions prompt the brain to look out for detail and moves learning on.

Punctuate with activity

Model something, get children to try it

Present in different ways

Remember VAK!

effective teaching

All pupils should be..... actively engaged in their learning

- ★ Teachers take into account children's concentration span (approx. 1min for each year of age) and ensure pupils are not sitting passively for long periods of time (over 15 mins)
- ★ Talk partners are evaluated weekly and changed frequently
- ★ Talk partners are used to engage pupils in their learning and are a feature in most lessons. Pupils are taught how to be good talk partners and use appropriate body language and listening skills.
- ★ Careful thought is given to methods of engagement in each lessons; lesson starters vary and visuals (incl. film), auditory input and artefacts are used to engage children and enhance learning.
- ★ Planning for a topic unit should involve children and establish prior knowledge which is taken into account when planning the full unit.

All lessons should focus on..... learning not doing

- ★ Children of all ages will be able to articulate what they are learning rather than what they are doing
- ★ Adults will model the language of learning and highlight children's learning rather than activities.
- ★ In disseminating the activities through which learning will be done, the learning will remain the focus.

All lessons will be supported by..... a rich learning environment

- ★ Basic resources will be at hand for all learners in all classes eg. dienes, multi-link, High Frequency Words or spelling pattern mnemonics
- ★ Working walls will reflect the work in literacy and numeracy and have examples of children's work, exemplified statements or sentences and a skeleton diagram of the genre for literacy.
- ★ Working walls are referred to in all lessons ensuring literacy and numeracy skills are embedded in the curriculum
- ★ 'Nag' targets; basic punctuation, presentation and spellings will be displayed
- ★ School values will be displayed and referred to support the active development of these in children's learning.
- ★ Children's work will be displayed on the wall either as a finished product or a work in progress
- ★ Water will be readily available for every child.

All lessons will have..... an element of modelling

- ★ Where Teachers are introducing new learning or extending learning further, modelling, at the children's level, will be used
- ★ Children's work will be improved as a result of the modelling
- ★ Teachers will be adept at talking through their thought process during the modelling process to support the school values

All lessons will be..... fully prepared

- ★ Photocopying, making and sourcing of resources etc will be done before the lesson begins and no adult or child should need to leave the classroom during the lesson to get resources.

These 4 phases look separate but the best teaching links them together to provide outstanding education.

Phase 3 – processing information

Develop, demonstrate and assess understanding

This is the key phase when pupils make sense of the information. The extent of the success depends on...

Quality of instructions

Open ended questions which extend and deepen, provide take-up time (7 secs is a long time!) to think, share thoughts and ideas, identify 3 possible answers, scaffold thinking

Talking

This articulates current level of understanding and forces us to organise thoughts

Tasks that engage and challenge

Tasks should provide a level of challenge, enable children to work for a sustained period of time Tasks should be creating something not re-producing it.

How quickly we intervene

If a child needs to move on quicker/slower, their learning will be stronger if we intervene quicker.

Phase 4 – review

Emphasis here is on reviewing what's been learned and reflecting on HOW it's been learned.

The best teachers weave 'review' throughout the entire lesson and refer back to the success criteria throughout.

Pupils are actively involved

Pupils should review for themselves what has been learnt.

Refer to LO and SC

This should incorporate not only what they have learnt but how they have learnt it and how this could be useful in another lesson.

Tasks that engage and challenge

Of course this raises self-esteem and boosts children's enthusiasm to return to the learning again, no matter how difficult they found it.



Parents

We are all one learning community, here for the good of the children. Parents are involved in school through Chat About, Busy Bees, Home/School promise, volunteering and workshops.



Staff

We are all learning too! A support network where staff work together to develop professional practice is encouraged. Nobody is perfect and we all have things to learn from one another..



Governors

Governors play a strategic role in monitoring the progress of children and best value of decisions made. They attend training and support each other in their learning process, calling on each other when needed.



Our curriculum is underpinned by 4 key drivers; 4 things that we felt children had little access to or understanding of which they would need in order to be successful lifelong learners. We plan on a 2 year cycle to ensure coverage of the National Curriculum breadth of study and ensure we are meeting the needs of each cohort of children.

Enterprise

Enterprise can be defined as giving something of value to others. Over time, staff have observed that this is something Stockbridge Primary Children have had little opportunities to do. As our motto is 'learning for life', we feel that this is an essential skill to become responsible citizens of the future.

Multicultural

The overwhelming majority of our children are White British with very little experience of a world outside of their own. Some experience holidays abroad but the opportunity to broaden horizons and empathy of others and their culture has not had a high priority on the curriculum. Having first hand experience of this through visitors, opportunities to see things for themselves and meet people from a range of cultures will be central to any topic. Stockbridge occupies an important geographical position being a small, rural town surrounding by major cities; Salisbury, Winchester, London, Swindon, Reading, all of which offer a rich plethora of potential experiences to broaden children's horizons.

Active learners

From our regular monitoring schedule, it is apparent that too many of our children are passive learners – too much is done for and to them which inhibits their active thinking and learning skills. Whilst they have a place, we will endeavour to use no worksheets in our learning so that teachers are constantly seeking creative ways to deliver content and new skills.

Outdoor learning

We are blessed with rich opportunities for outdoor exploration within the boundaries of the School site; a wildlife garden, amphitheatre, train station links are just a few of the areas children can explore and link their learning. In the immediate locality is an area of outstanding natural beauty and a conservation area, a biodiverse farm, the Testway, Stockbridge and Broughton downs and an observatory. Each theme will carefully consider how best to use these local resources in order to give pupils an opportunity to root themselves in the local community.

Our curriculum is designed to be flexible and to take account of children’s interests whilst ensuring we meet the statutory demands of the National Curriculum. We ensure coverage of the National Curriculum objectives and use the Cornerstones Curriculum planner to support the unpicking of these objectives into relevant knowledge, skills and understanding as it through the blend of these three key areas of learning that children are well prepared to be learners for life.

Because our classes are mixed age and have one year group split across 2 classes, the whole Key Stage undertakes the same topic theme which ensures consistency in provision for all children and enables us to ensure that children do not have to repeat topics they have already visited.

Year group	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Class structure	Year R	Year 1/2 class		Year 2/3 class		Year 4/5 class	
Example topic	2 x half term with flexibility to run with children’s interests	Deadly 60			Ancient Greeks		

This has not always been the case – in previous years when class organisation was different, each mixed age class followed its own curriculum map which ensured a broad and balanced. It is this flexibility that must be maintained through the implementation of the policy; the curriculum at Stockbridge Primary & Pre-school reflects children’s needs and interests.

[Curriculum long term plans are in Appendix B](#)

In addition to the four drivers, we have embedded teaching on the British Values of:

- a) Rule of law
- b) Democracy
- c) Mutual respect for & tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and those with no faith
- d) Individual liberty

Whilst these are explicitly stated on the curriculum map in either the multicultural driver, enterprise driver, PSHE or RE areas of the curriculum, they are an integral part of our school culture but may also be taught discretely if the subject demands this.

As set out in the National Curriculum rationale, children must have access to a broad and balanced curriculum. The responsibility for this lies with us as individual teachers, leadership and governors to ensure that the child’s right to this is protected here at Stockbridge Primary School. Children must be literate and numerate, well prepared for secondary school and whilst this primarily sits within English and Maths, we believe that they are only able to achieve highly in these subjects if they have things to write about and see maths in the world around so that there is a purpose for their learning. To this end, behind each topic on the curriculum long term plan, there is a set of guidance and objectives which detail for each topic exactly what should be taught, ensure coverage across both year groups and a solid progression of skill development. These can be found in [Appendix C of topic objective overviews](#).

Religious Education (RE)

The teaching of RE is locally determined rather than by central Government and our teaching and learning in this crucial subject is through the Hampshire ‘Living Difference’ syllabus (revised 2016) [\(Appendix D\)](#) . To encourage children to consider their responses and develop their understanding of faith and belief, learning is underpinned by a ‘big idea’ or concept (from the syllabus) which begins by being rooted in their own lives and experiences, eventually being broadened to the lives of others and how that interrelates to the world around them. Children in Key Stage 1 study these concepts through the faiths of Christianity and Judaism. Children in Key Stage 2 study these concepts through the faiths of Christianity, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism which results in children having a broad view of religion and other beliefs and faiths by the time they leave us in Year 6. Where possible and most importantly, where relevant, visits are made to the places of worship and visitors from these faiths, hosted by our school so that children can practically develop their understanding.

In accordance with the DfE guidelines ‘RE in English Schools; non-statutory guidance 2010’, parents have the right to request the withdrawal of their child from religious education without any explanation. In the event of this happening, it is our policy to meet with the parents and explain the RE syllabus – the decision will be reviewed annually in September as recommended in the guidance detailed above.

Early Years

Our 2-5 year old children follow the [Early Years Framework \(DfE 2014\)](#). The Framework provides the overview for learning at this young age and children learn mostly through games and play. There are 7 areas of learning:

- Communication and language
- Physical development
- Personal, social and emotional development
- Literacy
- Mathematics

- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

Each area of learning has an 'Early Learning Goal' which is the standard children should achieve at the end of Year R. There are three 'prime areas' of learning which are the foundations of learning for life. These are:

1. Communication and language
2. Physical development
3. Personal, social and emotional development

The remaining four areas, the 'specific' areas are the conduit through which the three prime areas should be strengthened and applied. Learning in the Early Years should be rooted in the child's interests therefore curriculum design and planning should reflect this. For children in pre-school, the provision, both enhanced and continuous, is driven entirely by children's interests with an overarching loose 'theme', stemming from their interests and Tapestry notifications in the previous week. Into this can be built opportunities to develop and enhance their schemas; if throwing is one, provision will reflect this so that it is targeted to the individual child's next step.

In Year R, children follow a more guided curriculum that is designed to allow flexibility for their own interests but with the firm belief that children don't know what they don't know and therefore, it is our responsibility as effective practitioners to enhance their knowledge and skills using their own interests alongside topics and themes from the world around them. The overview of provision for them can be found in [Appendix E](#).

English

National curriculum programmes of study can be found [by clicking on this link](#).

Maths

National curriculum programmes of study can be found [by clicking on this link](#). These are used as an overarching objectives which ensure that we are meeting the requirements of the statutory National Curriculum. However, in school, for practical planning purposes, staff use the White Rose Maths Hub set of objectives and resources.

Modern Foreign Languages

All year groups from 2-6 receive tuition in French as a MfL each week for anywhere between 45mins – 1hour. We believe that French

Planning

Key Stage 1 & 2

Long term plans (detailed on p.7) flow into Medium Term Plans (MTP). The topic overviews (detailed on p.7) are used as a guide to produce medium term plans which break the objectives down into session 'blocks' which are meaningful chunks of learning, conveyed to children throughout their learning. The MTP sets the foundations for learning and the 'journey' of learning the overarching objectives begins here. The journey of learning detailed in the MTP should be shared with children; it may not all be shared at once but could be built up across the journey of learning. Nevertheless, the start and end of the learning should be made explicit right at the beginning of sharing the topic with children so that they know where they are headed.

MTPs should also take into account the children's starting points. Work must be done by the teacher, with the children, prior to embarking on their planning, so that they can find out what children already know about their new topic/area of learning and can therefore adjust the content accordingly so that time is not wasted going over things children already know.

Medium term planning formats for foundation subjects can be found in [Appendix F](#).

Medium term planning for English is in [Appendix G](#) and for maths in [Appendix H](#).

Short term planning

For teachers working in KS1 & Year R, a weekly maths, literacy and phonics plans should be completed ([Appendix I](#), [Appendix J](#) and [Appendix K](#) respectively). In KS2, teachers should complete a weekly maths and literacy plan ([Appendix I](#) and [Appendix J](#) respectively). The literacy plan must also take explicit account of the spellings to be taught that week so that the journey of learning spellings is clear. This plan is written for the teacher and LSA so that they have a clear direction of where the learning is going throughout the week and can make notes of children who are achieving the daily objectives, those who aren't and strategies to improve these children's learning.

Throughout the school, from Year R to Year 6, we also work on a daily plan ([Appendix L](#)). This helps us to be reflective in our practice and take account of children's needs day on day. It aids the speed of responsiveness so that all staff involved with a class of children know exactly what each other is doing and how they may be used to support children's learning. It also enables us to keep track of children who need hearing read each day and daily timetable variations due to external factors.

All staff involved in the education of a child or class should be able to have an input into planning. Whilst this may not be done during a specific planning session, account should be taken after each input of what the adults involved with children's learning now know about the progress they have made, misconceptions which have occurred and what their next steps will be.

Pre-School

Planning for learning is essential, even for our youngest children. Children are planned for on an individual basis based on their interests and experiences. Teachers and support staff use Tapestry as a means of communication between home and the setting so that we are constantly informed of what children are interested in or trying out at home. This shared working is vital to the children's success. Children's next steps are at the forefront of our planning for pre-school children and the learning environment enhanced and enriched to make links to these next steps as well as enhance the schemas children follow and lines of interest at any given moment. These next steps are shared with the parents/carers so that they can support them at home and enable the child to make the most progress in the time we have with them.

Planning formats for pre-school children can be found in [Appendix M](#). With the same principle as Year R whereby children don't know what they don't know, we also run concurrently a 'theme' planner ([Appendix N](#)) taking a different theme each week or fortnight depending on children's interest in the theme.

Enrichment of our curriculum

Whilst teachers do all they can to bring the curriculum to life, sometimes, children just have to experience it for themselves. This experiential learning is at the heart of our curriculum and visits, visitors, workshops and themed days or weeks are an integral part of the curriculum offer at Stockbridge Primary School. Visits and visitors are planned on our long term plans ([Appendix B](#)) whilst theme weeks or days are planned in medium term planning when and where appropriate. When taking children on an educational visit or when planning a visitor to come into school, there must be a clear learning intention – what learning are we hoping children will undertake on that particular occasion? Teachers should be clear about this and share with the accompanying adults so that there is equality of provision for all children rather than the disparate learning which can sometimes occur when children split into groups on a trip. An overview of trips and visits for each of the rolling programme years can be found in [Appendix O](#).

Extra Curricular activities

In addition to our National Curriculum statutory offering during the school day, we offer a wide range of extra curricular activities which teachers largely lead although these are supplemented with other clubs and activities offered by parents or specialists. Children can opt into clubs but, once in, should show commitment and remain in the club for the remainder of the half term. They are not a form of childcare but a way of getting to know pupils outside of school in order to build trust, give children an opportunity to perhaps try a new skill or improve one they can already do or apply their skills in a different context. Clubs notes go out to parents in the last week of a 'big' term (December and just before Easter) as well as in the first week of September. The sign-up sheets, once returned are then replied to from the school office so that families have confirmation of which clubs their child will take part in.

Monitoring & evaluation

Subject leaders, senior leaders and Governors all monitor the quality of the curriculum offer in school on a regular basis. This is a vital way of ensuring we are consistently offering the children in our care the best quality education possible. Feedback from this monitoring is built into the school's self-evaluation and we are consistently improving.

Feedback and marking

Rationale

Marking is an intrinsic part of children's development as learners. Good marking tells children how well they have done and what they need to do to improve. It is a core part of our care, guidance and support and demonstrates on a daily basis that EVERY child matters.

Aims

- To ensure continuity and consistency in marking throughout the school so that each child is familiar with marking procedures as they move up through the school.
- Marking will be linked to the learning objective and clear success criteria which are explicitly shared with the children at the beginning of the lesson.
- Marking will outline how the child has been successful and will, where possible and applicable, indicate what they need to do to improve.
- Marking reinforces the high standards of presentation and work we aim for at Stockbridge Primary School and comments made verbally or written during the marking process will reflect this.
- Awareness of and comments which demonstrate progress towards a child's individual targets in literacy and numeracy will be reinforced in all core and foundation subjects.

- Time is given for children to reflect on their previous learning and respond to comments which will further their learning.
- Each child in the school has a better idea of how well they are doing in each subject and what they need to do to improve.
- As children progress through the school they become increasingly skilled at deriving the success criteria for the lesson which will engage them more in the learning process.
- Children will use tickled pinks and growing greens as the basis of effective self-assessment, finding them in their own and others work to develop further.
- The marking process is clear to all stakeholders, including parents, who will be able to engage with their child's learning and support them when addressing growing greens in their homework.

Guidelines

In order to realise the aims outlined above, we will adopt Shirley Clarke's 'tickled pink and growing green' method of marking is used throughout the School. Guidelines on this procedure are outlined below.

The learning objective (LO) will be shared with children at the beginning of each lesson and recorded at the top of each piece of work. This will make it clear what the work was about and what the children were trying to achieve. Success at the LO may be highlighted in pink if the child has achieved what they were working towards.

Success criteria will be shared with the children. These may be posed as 'how will you know you've been successful?' or 'what will tickle me pink?'

Marking for positive work towards the learning objective and/or a child's targets will be highlighted in pink. A comment may be left for the child to read so that they know exactly what they have done well.

Marking for development will be highlighted in green. This may be for spelling mistakes, punctuation areas of weakness, corrections or where the child has not fully met the learning objective. An example of marking for key stage 1 can be found in Annex 1. An example of marking for key stage 2 can be found in Annex 2.

Each classroom will display a set of guidelines on tickled pinks and growing greens which have been specifically worded for children. These are saved on the school server under 'marking'.

A range of codes will be used to denote how much support the child has had during the lesson. These codes will also be displayed in a prominent place in each classroom and are saved on the school server under 'marking'.

I	Independent
T	With teacher
LSA	With LSA
P	With partner
D	Discussed with T
S	Had some support

Time should be given each day for children to respond to and ask questions about the marking from the previous session. Ideally, this will be at the beginning of each lesson.

Adaptations for younger learners

In recognition that reading ability in Reception and Year 1 is not as developed as the rest of the school, the tickled pink and growing green system will be mainly verbal but will be recorded in children's books as a record for parents, other teachers and support assistants and inspectors to see. Success criteria, linked to the learning objective, will still be shared with children at the beginning of each lesson. They will then receive verbal feedback and a growing green or tickled pink sticker or cube which contributes to a whole class reward.

Where written feedback for these children is useful, it will be applied to work which can be read back to children with the support of a Learning Support Assistant or the Teacher.

Homework to enhance the curriculum

Rationale

At Stockbridge Primary School, our ultimate aim is develop learners with a love of learning for life. Homework provides opportunities to apply and practise skills developed in school with experiences children have at home on a regular basis. As the primary educators of children, parents are encouraged to support and reinforce the shared expectations by as many different means as possible. By expanding the curriculum and extending it into the home we have the best possible chance of building on children's experiences outside of school.

We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in our Home-School Promise and linked to things children will be doing in school.

We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time.'

Guidelines on time and amount

In accordance with DfE guidance, the average time to be spent on set homework tasks are:

Years 1 & 2	1 hour / week
Years 3 & 4	1 ½ hours / week
Years 5 & 6	30 minutes / day (2 ½ hours / week)

The precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of the task set and the quality of the child's completed task. It is expected that School standards and homework standards should be similar.

Types of task

	Reading	Spelling	Maths	English	Other
Year R	Daily	Word lists to learn			Only when appropriate
Year 1		4 tasks, 5 words	Maths games & record book	A weekly writing task to be set by the teacher and modelled before sending home so that expectations are clear.	
Year 2			Autumn: maths games Spring & Summer: x tables PLUS: short maths activity each week		
Year 3			4 tasks, 10 words		
Year 4		Topic themed task: # of wks in half term = # of tasks			
Year 5					
Year 6					

Homework for Maths and English will be distributed to all children on a Thursday and should be handed back in on a Tuesday. This allows families time to complete homework outside of the weekend whilst also giving children 2 school days to seek more support from their teacher if they're not sure how to complete it or what expectations are. Termly homework will be set in the first week of term and due in on the last week.

Unless clearly specified homework tasks are not optional. The homework set focuses on things which need a great deal of overlearning to become habit and, whilst a lot of effort is spent on making these tasks interesting, they simply have to be done!

It is expected that all children will complete the homework tasks that are set. Whilst the School will do everything possible to encourage children to complete homework tasks, the onus for completion of homework is on individual children and their parents. Homework tasks and participation by children will be regularly monitored by the School and should be regularly monitored by the parents. Where an individual does not complete homework tasks over an extended period of time, contact will be made with the parents, initially by the class teacher and subsequently by the head teacher.

A homework task will always be set for a clear purpose and not for its own sake. Should a homework task not be set, this would be as a result of a teacher's professional decision. However, such a situation would be the exception and not the rule. If parents find that this is happening often, they should speak with the child's class teacher in the first instance.

Reading books will be changed and reviewed during reading sessions with a nominated adult in school. Each child in Sprat & Winkle and Horsebridge class will be heard read twice per week, once as 1:1 and once in a guided reading group. There may be other occasions when other adults in school will hear children read. In this instance, they too will record in the child's home/school record book and pass any feedback to the teacher responsible for the child.

The topic work is designed to develop children's need for increasing independence as they manage their own time and the demands for homework in order to set them up for success at secondary school where much of the homework requires children to complete it in their own time and under their own steam. It is an important part of our transition process, as it managing their planner which all children have from year 2 upwards.

The learning environment

At Stockbridge Primary School, we are committed to providing a rich learning environment for our children. In line with our school values, resources are placed out for free use in the classroom so that children can be encouraged to be independent and selective in accessing resources themselves. To develop a real sense of resourcefulness and give each child the best opportunity to succeed in reaching this important value, we have 6 overarching principles. We believe that the learning environment should:

Show the finished product

There should be a good range of displays throughout the school which depict children's finished, polished work. This is crucial if we are to ensure children understand the value of producing something for others to view and the required standards thereafter.

Show work in progress

This is especially true of working walls for topics or English or Maths where teachers and children may display collections of words, workings out and the thought process behind these however, walls should not be solely this. Where work is in progress, there should be labelling or explanation, preferably done by the children so that they understand the value of these in giving information to visitors and each other.

Be accessible and useful

Teachers should consider where they place resources and how they group them so that children can easily find things they need to support their learning

Be organised

There is a place for everything and everything in its place. These places should be well known to children, labelled and tidy. There should not be unnecessary clutter which prevents children from accessing resources or from moving safely around the classroom.

Develop a love of reading

Where possible texts should be linked to each display so that children can take any opportunity to read more around something that interests them. Texts should reflect the age of the children and be of something which may appeal to them.

Be consistent with whole school initiatives

Items such as water bottles, effort mountains, value circles and behaviour expectations should be consistent in each class. Water bottles or cups should always be on the sink in each classroom and washed daily. Effort mountains (Appendix P) should display age appropriate levels of text and either each child's name or photo. Behaviour resources, as detailed in the behaviour policy and its associated appendices should be clearly displayed and known by the children.

In addition to these overarching principles, we ensure that displays reference rich vocabulary – tier 2 and 3 and these are words or phrases understood, and preferably used, by the children. The journey of learning, as described in the section in this policy on Medium Term Plans, should also be evident – a washing line, series of statements or some other accessible way should be up for English, maths and topic subjects children are studying.

Most importantly, the topic or theme being studied should be very clear. This may be through a combination of displays, books, children's work etc.