



Home Learning Policy

(Spring 2026)

At Team Bedford, we aim to use home learning opportunities to develop our pupils' confidence, vocabulary and fluency in key basic skills.

We feel it is vital that any **home learning should be fun** and should allow families to spend quality time together. It should not be a task that places pressure on families or encroaches upon valuable family time. We believe that quality time together and opportunities to talk to your children are key to their development.

Our school's Instagram page and the school's website offer an insight into the children's learning journeys within school. These are a great starting point for discussions with your children about their current learning and also may give you some ideas of places you can visit together. Our city is rich in local history and free places to visit and we will always endeavor to sign post our families to places they can engage in free family fun.

What tasks will be set by school?

For Reception Children

In reception, our focus is upon early reading development and developing a love of books. We ask that parents read at home with their child and to their child as often as possible. We ask that book bags are in school daily. Occasionally, the children may also receive topic related tasks that correlates to their learning that week, for example counting whilst cooking or collecting seasonal items to share in class. During the summer term we also start to send home target words for the children to review with their families.

Reading in Reception and Year 1 and 2

In EYFS and KS1, children read with an adult in school each week in a variety of ways. Children who are on the Read Write Inc. phonics programme read phonetically-decodable texts, directly linked to their current reading ability, during each of their daily phonic sessions. In addition to this, all children complete weekly small group Guided Reading sessions with their class teacher. In Reception the guided reading sessions commence in the spring term. Children who are on the Read Write Inc. phonics programme take a phonetically-decodable 'Book Bag' book to read at home; these books are changed weekly. Children who no longer need to complete the Read Write Inc daily phonics programme, take a reading-age appropriate text of their choice from the school's book-banded scheme to read at home. These books are changed weekly.

To support your child's reading development, we strongly advise that they read their books to an adult at home, whenever possible, and at least 3 times each week. To further support your child's

reading, they may be given target sounds (graphemes)/words to practise with an adult at home. Alongside the ability-appropriate books provided each week by school, we also encourage children to read anything they find enjoyable at home such as newspapers, magazines, library books, web-based articles etc. Reading for pleasure and nurturing a love of reading in a child's free time is a tangible way to equip children with the reading skills they need to thrive in school and beyond. Reading for pleasure also empowers children with the chance to discover new things, both about the world around them and people and cultures they may not yet be familiar with.

It is therefore vital that children are given the opportunity to read regularly with an adult at home. After each shared read, please sign your child's reading record. **It is also very important for children to bring their book bag, with their reading record and reading book, into school with them each day.**

Reading in KS2 (Years 3,4,5 and 6)

In KS2, children are encouraged to read three to four times weekly, preferably to an adult to ensure their reading accuracy and understanding is appropriately supported. An adult needs to sign their reading record after each read and these should be in school with them each day and will be checked regularly.

In year 6, Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling and arithmetic homework will be set to prepare the pupils for secondary school and to ensure they have the opportunity to consolidate their learning in class. Pupils will be able to complete these tasks at home or during 'drop-in' sessions each break time throughout the week.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's home reading, please do not hesitate to contact their class teacher, who can provide further advice and support.

Supporting Your Child with Maths

- Times tables and number bonds should be practised as often as possible **e.g. for the number 10, number bonds include: $7 + 3 = 10$, $5 + 5 = 10$, $6 + 4 = 10$ etc., including subtraction number sentences.**
- We also subscribe to Times Table Rock Stars (<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>) Tasks will be set by class teachers using this site, however the site also contains a wealth of activities that can be used by families at any time to support children to learn their tables. Passwords and user login details are available from your child's teacher.

- If you require support gaining access to the Times Table Rock Stars site or don't have internet access at home please speak to your child's teacher.
- In key year groups, Year 2 and Year 6 in particular, additional homework to prepare pupils for National tests may also be set throughout the year.
- We use positive recognition and rewards to celebrate those children who regularly complete home learning and home reading. We also seek to support children and families who may face barriers to home learning. If you are encountering any challenges please speak to your child's teacher or the pastoral team.
- Family learning events to support you with your child's learning will be organised during the year. Look out in the Bugle, on the school's digital display board and on our website or further details. These events will take place both within school hours and in the evening, to provide all parents with the opportunity to attend.

We hope you will enjoy learning together