Jessie Younghusband School

Home Learning Policy

Agreed Summer 2026

Review Summer 2029

Aspire ~ Respect ~ Enjoy

JESSIE YOUNGHUSBAND SCHOOL

HOME LEARNING POLICY

Philosophy

The staff and governors of Jessie Younghusband School believe that children learn best when all participants in their education work together as partners. Parents have been consulted through a questionnaire in drawing up this policy for home learning.

Home learning is an integral part of our partnership with parents as it enables teachers, parents and carers to:

- deepen children's learning through practising, rehearsing, researching and sharing work at home;
- enrich school-based learning whilst developing the partnership between home and school;
- encourage children to develop confidence, self-discipline and interest in learning beyond school;
- support children to develop their independence as learners through planning, organisation, meeting deadlines and taking responsibility for their own learning;
- prepare children for the expectations of secondary education;
- help children to become increasingly independent, autonomous learners.

Principles of Home Learning

We believe that:

- All home learning should be purposeful and support the child's learning in school.
- Tasks should primarily consolidate and embed learning already introduced in school (with the exception of research activities).
- Guidance or examples should be provided where appropriate to support children and parents.
- Feedback will be provided in a proportionate and manageable way (this may include verbal feedback, whole-class feedback, review in lessons, or acknowledgement of completion).
- A clear time expectation should be identified, recognising that children work at different rates.
- Home learning may include: phonics, reading, spellings, counting, times tables, literacy and maths tasks, science, topic work, research and creative activities.
- Research or 'making' activities will be set occasionally and with sufficient notice (normally at least three weeks).
- Formal home learning will not usually be set over holiday periods, except where appropriate (e.g. Year 6 SATs preparation).

Remote Learning Provision

Where a child is unable to attend school but is well enough to learn:

- **Short-term absence**: Work will be provided via email or as printed packs sent home.
- **Long-term absence**: Work will be set via **Microsoft Teams**, enabling children to access learning remotely using their school email account.

This ensures continuity of education in line with current expectations and supports pupils to remain engaged with their learning.

Organisation and Nature of Home Learning Activities

Reading

All children should be supported to read at home daily where possible, but at least 4–5 times per week. This may be with an adult or independently for older children.

Spellings

Children will receive regular spelling lists linked to National Curriculum expectations. These will be practised at home and assessed in class. Children may also use the words in sentences to demonstrate understanding.

Counting, Number Bonds and Times Tables

Children will practise key mathematical facts regularly to develop fluency. This includes:

- counting and number bonds (EYFS/KS1)
- times tables and division facts (when appropriate for the child)

Literacy and Maths Tasks

A weekly task may be set to consolidate learning. Tasks are designed to be flexible and manageable alongside family life and other commitments.

Science and Topic Tasks

Occasionally, tasks may focus on other curriculum areas, sometimes in place of literacy or maths activities.

Research Tasks

These help children prepare for future learning and develop independence. They are usually set with extended deadlines.

'Making' Tasks

These creative tasks encourage collaboration between child and family and support topic learning. Adequate notice will always be given.

Frequency

- **Year 6**: Up to two pieces of formal home learning per week (approximately 30 minutes each).
- **Other year groups**: Typically one formal task per week (approximately 30 minutes).
- In addition, reading, spellings and times tables should be practised regularly (ideally 4–5 times per week).

Teachers will ensure tasks are set with enough time to complete, including over weekends where appropriate. Information about routines will be shared in termly curriculum communications.

Year Group Expectations

Reception

- Regular reading and phonics activities shared with parents
- Suggested number activities (e.g. counting, number bonds)
- Occasional requests to bring in items to support learning

Year 1

1. Regular spelling practice
2. Reading books shared at home
3. Occasional practical or written tasks linked to classroom learning

Year 2

1. Regular reading at home
2. Weekly spelling practice
3. Weekly home learning task linked to class learning

Years 3 and 4

1. Daily reading expected
2. Weekly spelling practice
3. Regular times tables practice
4. Weekly home learning task

Years 5 and 6

1. Daily reading expected
2. Weekly spelling practice
3. Times tables practice where needed
4. Weekly home learning (Year 5) or up to twice weekly (Year 6)

Inclusion

Jessie Younghusband School is committed to ensuring that home learning is accessible to all children.

- Tasks will be adapted where appropriate to meet the needs of individual pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- Reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure that all children can engage with home learning successfully.
- Where necessary, alternative formats or additional support will be provided in consultation with parents and carers.
- We recognise that home circumstances vary and will take a flexible approach to expectations, ensuring that all children are supported to participate as fully as possible.

Digital Safety

When engaging with online learning, including the use of Microsoft Teams, the school is committed to promoting safe and responsible use of technology.

- Pupils will access online learning using their school-provided email accounts.
- All use of Microsoft Teams and other platforms will follow the school's Acceptable Use Policy.
- Parents are encouraged to support children in using technology safely at home, including supervising online activity where appropriate.
- Children will be reminded regularly about safe online behaviour, including protecting personal information, respectful communication and reporting any concerns.

- Any safeguarding concerns arising from online learning will be managed in line with the school's Safeguarding Policy.

Final Statement

This policy recognises that views on home learning vary. We aim to provide a flexible and balanced approach that supports children's progress while respecting family life. Through this partnership, we aim to ensure all children are well prepared for the next stage of their education.