



## Iffley Academy Home Learning Policy

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| Written              | February 2020   |
| Date of review       | February 2022   |
| SLT Lead             | Debbie Nicholas |
| Signed: Head Teacher | _____           |
| Chair of Trustees    | _____           |

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## **Rationale**

At the Iffley Academy we recognise the value in the learning that can take place outside of school and use the phrase, 'Home Learning', rather than 'Homework'.

Home learning is anything that our pupils do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support pupils' learning.

The Iffley Academy believes that home learning opportunities need to be relevant to the individual needs of each pupil.

We recognise that our pupils benefit from the mutual support of parents/carers and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. In addition to the home-school link books, email or telephone communication system, home learning can be an important way of further developing a successful dialogue between home and school. Home learning also supports independent learning.

Whilst home learning is of great value, we acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Therefore it should not prevent our pupils from taking part in after school clubs and organisations that are key in helping the development of social independence.

The Iffley Academy appreciates that home learning may cause anxiety for some of our pupils. Therefore teachers liaise with parents/carers when setting tasks to be completed at home. We welcome feedback from home via parents' evenings, annual reviews, post admissions meeting and the home-school diary/email system.

This policy is therefore designed to be flexible and not a meaningless chore for pupils, parents/carers or teachers.

## **Aims and objectives**

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner and take ownership of their own learning
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting every child's learning
- To help pupils develop good work habits for the future
- To allow pupils the opportunity to develop their own interests
- To revisit and consolidate learning in the classroom



## **Practice**

- Any home learning task that is given must be of value to each individual pupil.
- Our pupils work hard during the school day so work of an academic nature may not always be appropriate and should take on a variety of forms
- Home learning tasks should not cause undue stress on the pupil, parent/carer or teacher
- Teachers, in consultation with parents/carers, are happy to discuss the type of activities that would be the most beneficial, but there will be no formal marking of the completed work, unless a pupil wished to complete practice exam papers
- Sometimes a pupil may be requested to complete unfinished class work at home, but this is only in agreement with pupil, parent/carer and teacher
- There are opportunities for a pupil's termly outcome plan (TOPs) target to be linked to a home learning activity

## **Types of home learning**

We aim for a selection of tasks set to be interactive and engaging in order to support parent/carers in encouraging their child to complete the tasks at home. Some examples are below:

- Maths Active Learn website can be accessed from home
- Rapid Reading books and resources website can be accessed from home.
- MyMaths individual logins with allocated mathematics activities are provided for Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils.
- Tate and Louvre home learning activities, linking to the current thematic approach to learning topic are sent home each term.
- Working from a range of recommended websites to support exam preparation in Guggenheim and MCA galleries
- Functional Skills practice papers in English and Maths
- Gathering photographic evidence, using a school camera, to demonstrate life skills opportunities

Parents have also received training sessions in the use of Numicon, Active Learn, Rapid Reading and E-safety in order to further support their knowledge in our school systems and resources.

## **Celebration of home learning**



We value dialogue with parents/carers and encourage home learning tasks to be emailed to the class teacher or school home learning email address. This has proved to be very successful and the work is often accompanied by photographs of the learning taking place.

Pupils' home learning activities are then recognised in our termly celebration assemblies where the Home Learning award is presented.

We also distribute home learning postcards, which are sent out after the completion of each piece of home learning, in recognition of their work.

### **Monitoring**

The Lead Practitioner for SEND is responsible for monitoring the Home Learning policy. The learning managers for each gallery are also responsible for supporting colleagues in setting home learning and for providing strategic lead and direction for the area in the school.

This policy will be reviewed in consultation with pupils, staff and the Teaching and Learning committee.