

Stepgates Community School

Learning and Growing Together

Headteacher: Mrs Tara Ford



Stepgates, Chertsey

Surrey KT16 8HT

Tel: 01932 563022 - Fax: 01932 571812

Monday 18th September, 2023

Expectations for Home Learning 2023 - 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please find detailed below the changes we are adopting as a school towards home learning as of this academic year, alongside the new expectations which will commence as of this Friday (22nd September 2022). As a staff, we have discussed how home learning impacts upon family life and moving forward, how we would like to modify our previous systems so that home learning does not place an additional pressure upon life outside of school too much.

As a definition, we believe that home learning is anything which children do outside of the normal school day and as such, are activities which contribute to their learning. We believe that home learning in its new proposed format should and will encompass a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning, helping them to develop a wider breath of skills across a range of different learning opportunities, and serve as a vehicle of communicating key points of learning for pupils from school to home. Home learning tasks will focus on the consolidation of key fundamental skills covered within school.

Detailed below is an outline of the weekly tasks which will be issued, as well as an optional task grid (please see further detail below), providing further breadth to enhancing learning opportunities at home and encompassing activities which could be completed as a family. Further details regarding home learning can also be found on our school website via the "Curriculum: Home Learning" tab.

Weekly home learning:

- Home learning across the school will be set on a **Friday** by class/COIN teachers and will need to be completed by the following **Thursday** in order to provide families greater flexibility in when completing home learning.
- Each week, there will be English and Maths **written** home learning tasks assigned for completion and submission (in Years 1-5), as well as reading expectations / optional home learning as supplied. Home learning in Year 6 will be completed **online**, with accompanying reading expectations / optional home learning as supplied.
- Further information regarding home learning in the Early Years department (Nursery / Reception) will be communicated via the Sunbeams and Ladybirds newsletters directly.
- In addition, for Years 1-6, an **optional** half-termly project grid will also be sent home with six ideas for home learning, providing further exciting opportunities for enrichment. These

will include activities such as seasonal focused tasks, STEM and life skills activities, as well as projects which incorporate our school values and composer/artist of the month work that we complete within school. Upon completion, evidence of these can be sent into school to share with your child's class / class teacher, where successes will be celebrated.

Outline of home learning expectations:

Class name:	Outline of tasks / expectations:
Reception (Ladybirds)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 4 sessions per week for 10 minutes • Number of the week - this is detailed in the Ladybirds newsletter • Weekly phonic sounds - these are detailed in the Ladybirds newsletter • Caterpillar words (high frequency words)
Year 1 (Butterflies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 10 - 20 minutes • Weekly spelling lists / phonics task • Maths task x 1 • Science / Topic home learning may commence from Spring Term onwards
Year 2 (Grasshoppers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 10 - 20 minutes • Weekly spelling lists / phonics task • Maths task x 1 • Science / Topic home learning may commence from Spring Term onwards
Year 3 (Falcons)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 20 minutes • Weekly spelling lists • Maths task x 1 • English task x 1 • Termly activity x 1 • Science / Topic home learning may commence from Spring Term onwards
Year 4 (Hawks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 20 - 25 minutes • Weekly spelling lists • Maths task x 1 • English task x 1 • Termly activity x 1 • Science / Topic home learning may commence from Spring Term onwards
Year 5 (Owls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 30 minutes • Weekly spelling lists • Maths task x 1 • English task x 1 • Termly activity x 1 • Science / Topic home learning may commence from Spring Term onwards
Year 6 (Kites)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 30 minutes • Weekly spelling lists • Maths task x 1 - online using Maths Prodigy • English task x 1 - online using SPAG.com • Science / Topic home learning may commence from Spring Term onwards
KS2 COIN (Robins)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading x 5 sessions per week for 30 minutes • Weekly spelling lists • Maths task x 1 • English task x 1

We hope that these changes will give families a greater choice and flexibility in completing their home learning and provide additional engaging learning opportunities and enrichment for our children.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class / COIN teacher directly via their personal work email address.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Curriculum Team