

# Viking Academy Trust



## Home Learning Policy

The VIKING ACADEMY TRUST Home Learning Policy has been written after consultation with staff.

**Approved by the Trust: Term 1 2018-19**

**Reviewed annually**

**Last review date: Term 1 2018-19**

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Roby', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

**Chair of Trustees**

# Viking Academy Trust

## Home Learning Policy

### Schools in the Viking Academy Trust (VAT)

These are:

- Chilton Primary School
- Ramsgate Arts Primary School
- Upton Junior School

This Behaviour Policy is specific to **Upton Junior School**.

### Home Learning

Upton Junior School believe that **home learning** (often referred to as '**homework**') is an important aspect of a child's education. We believe it encourages children to become increasingly independent and we aim to incrementally prepare our pupils for their secondary school education where home learning will be a daily requirement. Homework allows parents, carers and the school to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

We also encourage parents to engage with their child's education through homework, learning and growing together. Tempering this must be the desire for children to be children, to experience 'down-time' and family-time and to this end homework should not be too intrusive upon children's lives.

**At Upton Junior School 'Home Learning' focuses on the following areas:**

- Reading Fluency
- Understanding of Reading (Reading Comprehension)
- Spelling
- Mathematics
- Topic-Based projects that span across a term
- Optional Learning Projects that children and families can engage with if they wish

**Home Learning** is set for all pupils weekly. In key areas of English and Maths particularly, home learning gives a child the opportunity to consolidate things they have learned in class or continually develop key skills such as reading, spelling and times-tables.

Each week children will have homework in English and in Maths in addition to a Topic homework project that spans across the term (*see below*).

	English	Maths	Topic
<b>Year 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading (minimum expectation every child reads with an adult 3 x a week)</li> <li>Spellings (weekly – text every Monday)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiplication Practice</li> <li>'My Maths': tasks set fortnightly. Children are also able to access online additional learning through these platforms</li> </ul>	Termly Topic Learning Projects
<b>Year 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading (minimum expectation every child reads with an adult 3 x a week)</li> <li>Spellings (weekly – test every Monday)</li> <li>Fortnightly reading Comprehension or SPAG homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiplication Practice</li> <li>'My Maths': tasks set fortnightly. Children are also able to access online additional learning through these platforms</li> </ul>	Termly Topic Learning Projects
<b>Year 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading (minimum expectation every child reads with an adult 3 x a week)</li> <li>Spellings (weekly – test every Monday)</li> <li>Weekly Reading Comprehension or SPAG homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiplication Practice</li> <li>'My Maths': tasks set fortnightly. Children are also able to access online additional learning through these platforms</li> </ul>	Termly Topic Learning Projects
<b>Year 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading (minimum expectation every child reads with an adult 3 x a week)</li> <li>Spellings (weekly – test every Monday)</li> <li>Weekly Reading Comprehension or SPAG homework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiplication Practice</li> <li>'My Maths': tasks set fortnightly. Children are also able to access online additional learning through these platforms</li> </ul>	Termly Topic Learning Projects

### Optional Learning Challenges:

*'I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious.'* Albert Einstein

Many children and parents at Upton are very keen to access additional learning challenges in areas they enjoy. At Upton we set termly **Optional Learning Challenges** in lots of different subjects for children to engage with if they wish. Each challenge leads to some type of reward from the school to the child to congratulate them for accessing additional learning opportunities. These **Optional Learning Challenges** are sent out to all parents via email every term and chronicled on our school website under '**Home Learning at Upton**'

The school website also contains useful links and pre-prepared questions to aid parents if they wish to engage with any further learning at home.

### **Maths Online Learning:**

Within Maths, children are given logins for our online homework portal in **MyMaths**, an online homework tool we use at the school. Online homework is easy to engage with and means children can access it from phones, iPads or a computer. The programme also provides explanations of the concepts needed for each piece of homework. The school IT Suite is open daily until 5pm for parents (or grandparents) to work alongside their child in online home learning tasks if they do not have home access to a computer.

### **Supporting Families:**

For families who struggle with homework for any reason, our Learning Mentors run a weekly homework club for children to attend. Parents should speak to the class teacher or one of our Learning Mentors directly regarding this.

Strong communication between home and school is always essential. If a child is struggling with homework, parents need to ensure they communicate this to the teacher involved so that they can give additional support.

### **School Expectations Regarding Home Learning:**

One of the greatest impacts a parent can have on their child's education is to display a positive attitude and work in partnership with the school.

We do expect children to complete the home learning set by the school and return it on the date required. However, we also understand that home life may dictate that occasions occur when this is not possible. If a child is unable to do their home learning for any reason, parents simply need to communicate this to the teacher involved via email, phone call or written note. The school require communication to this effect so they know not to expect the home learning that particular week.

The school runs daily '**Catch-up Club**' sessions at lunchtimes for Years 4, 5 & 6 where children can catch up on their work so that they do not fall behind in any way. Children attend this club if they haven't done their home learning for that week or need to catch up on anything from their lessons.