

# Home Learning



## At Burlington Danes Primary Academy

At BDPA we want children to develop a lifelong love of learning. Our home learning is designed to ignite children's interest in the subjects they are studying in school and contribute to a rich, wide learning experience. Research into the effectiveness of homework on improving children's attainment shows that repetitive tasks and worksheets have little impact on progress and achievement.

When homework works best, pupils are allowed opportunities to 'prepare' for a topic or area of learning (Prep) and/or read around it, following their own lines of enquiry or interests. This type of home learning encourages pupils to develop independence and a love of knowledge. They find things out for themselves and therefore have a far greater ownership over what they have learnt. Completing homework regularly helps children to develop good habits and a strong work ethic; home learning should always be enjoyable. If your child is not enjoying their home learning, please speak to your class teacher for suggestions on how to engage them.

### *How can parents support Prep and Home Learning?*

Parents have an important role to play in supporting this approach to home learning. For our pupils to achieve success we need parents to take an interest in what their children are learning. Here are some tips from the Department for Education as to how parents can best support their children:

**Make Time:** Your child will benefit from you taking an interest in what they are doing

**Experiences:** Try to link life and leisure experience to your child's school work e.g. visits to the park, museum or days out

**Talk:** Make time to ask your child about what they are studying and what they have learnt. Another great way to show you are interested is to attend school activities such as parents' evenings and sport events

### *What home learning will your child need to complete each week?*

Each half term your child will have new home learning stuck into their home learning book. This will include:

Reading	Read every day with your child. You can either listen to them read or read a story yourself. Children who spend more time reading with an adult at home do better in school and have fewer behaviour problems. It really does make a difference!
Arithmetic	Your child's teacher will share a list of mental maths skills that are being taught each half term. These require regular, consistent practice but they don't need to be recorded on paper. A lot of them can be applied to real life situations which helps to embed mathematical understanding. If children can use these skills effectively they will be able to apply them during their daily maths lessons.
Prep	Your child will be given an activity to complete each week. The outcome of this should be recorded in your child's home learning book and brought into school each week to share with your child's class. We have intentionally chosen scrap books for our home learning books so that children can be creative with what they stick in and how they choose to present their work. If children are going to write in their book they should do so on lined paper that can be stuck in. The school will provide handwriting paper for children.
WOW project	Each half term there will be a creative project for children to work on related to the class topic. These pieces should be brought in in the last week of term to share with the class. This is an opportunity for children to develop skills of perseverance and commitment as they create something over a period of time. Children should have a real sense of pride and ownership in these pieces; we encourage parents to be supportive but allow for children's creativity and personal style!
Suggested visits	Every half term teachers will share ideas for places you can visit to enhance your child's learning in school. Real life experiences are one of the best ways to help learning become memorable.

### *How do teachers give feedback on home learning?*

We believe in teachers spending time on what truly has the most impact on your child's education. We know that giving children feedback in person and the opportunity for them to reflect on their work is the best way to help move learning on. Children have a dedicated time in their school week to come together as a class and share their home learning and talk about what they have done. Once teachers have spoken to children about their work they will stamp their book so you know as parents they have received feedback.

