

# Vigo Primary School



## Home Learning Principles

At Vigo Primary School, we believe that the opportunity to participate in home learning can add much to a pupil's development, progress and attainment in their education.

### **Aims of these principles**

Through implementation of these principles, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- To encourage children to develop the resilience, independence and motivation needed to study on their own and prepare them for the next phase of education
- To make set home learning relevant and meaningful for the child linked to work in school
- Make expectations about home learning clear to children, parents and other carers
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school

### **Why do we value homework?**

Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school.

By valuing home-school learning, pupils are afforded the chance to practice skills, consolidate understanding of work covered in the classroom and to widen their own interests. Moreover, developing good study habits provides an opportunity for pupils to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

### **Principles**

- The level of home learning is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of home learning to allow for a healthy home/school work balance.
- Teachers ensure that the tasks are purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating fundamental skills.
- Teachers provide parents and pupils with clear motivational instructions for tasks as well as clear examples of work to guide both children and adults.
- Parents will be informed about our aims in setting homework and about the importance this type of work plays in children's education.

### **How homework will be set**

- Learning will be set weekly.
- Children who do not have access to technology will be provided with a paper copy.
- Reading may be via 'real' books or ebooks.

### **Recognition and Rewards:**

The recommendations for home learning time of primary aged children is little and often; children should aim to complete home learning as often as possible and if able to daily when at home. Children who complete their home learning will be praised to encourage intrinsic motivation which references our MIRROR values. They will also be rewarded with Dojo points which contribute to house points. Children may also receive stickers or a certificate from the senior leadership team for pieces of home learning which demonstrate excellence for that individual.

## **Home learning tasks**

### *Foundation Stage*

- Reading and sharing books with an adult at least 3 times per week; adults to keep a signed record in the Reading Record
- Teddy Bear common exception words
- Children may be given additional 'top-up' practice of phonic sounds and/or vocabulary to practice (fridge words)

### *Key Stage 1 (Year 1)*

- Reading/sharing books with an adult at least 3 times per week and recording in the Reading Record
- Teddy Bear or Robot common exception words
- Children may be given additional 'top-up' practice of phonic sounds and/or vocabulary to practice (fridge words)

### *Key Stage 1 (Year 2)*

- Reading/sharing books with an adult at least 3 times per week and recording in the Reading Record
- Teddy Bear, Robot or Astronaut common exception words
- When children have finished the phonics programme, they will be given a log in for spelling shed to complete spellings practise which will follow the spelling patterns taught in their phased groups or linked to curriculum
- Learning of multiplication facts 2, 5, 10 (and starting on 3 when ready) using Times Table Rock Stars

### *Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)*

- Reading at least 3-5 times per week
- Learning times tables using Times Tables Rockstars (continuing with 2, 5 and 10 and learning of multiplication facts 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 when ready)
- A log in for spelling shed is provided to complete spellings practise which will follow the spelling patterns taught in school or linked to a curriculum focus
- Choice of curriculum home learning projects

### *Upper Key stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)*

- Reading at least 3-5 times per week
- Learning times table facts using Times Tables Rockstars (all tables to be revised, in any order, mixed and to include division)
- A log in for spelling shed is provided to complete spellings practise which will follow the spelling patterns taught in school or linked to a curriculum focus
- Choice of curriculum home learning projects

## **Expectations**

It is the expectation that all children will engage and practice their reading, times table and spelling home learning at least 3 times per week. Pupils have choice in curriculum home learning projects and are encouraged to bring them in to school upon completion.

Dates for handing homework in are always made explicit by the class teacher.

If you have a concern regarding homework, please talk to your child's class teacher.

**How you can help your child with their home learning?**

You can show you value your child's homework by:

- providing a suitable space in which your child can do their home learning
- making it clear to your child that you value home learning and support the school in explaining how it can help learning
- encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed their home learning

**Additionally, you can support your child's development by:**

- visits to libraries, museums etc.
- cooking with them
- taking your child swimming
- playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games
- watching informative TV programmes together
- providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- gardening and growing plants
- using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning

Home learning is about reinforcing, practicing and confidence building and children always learn best when they are having fun!

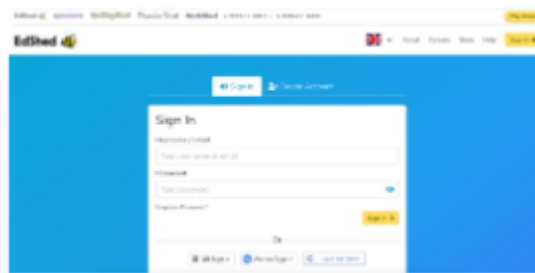
## Appendix 1- Spelling



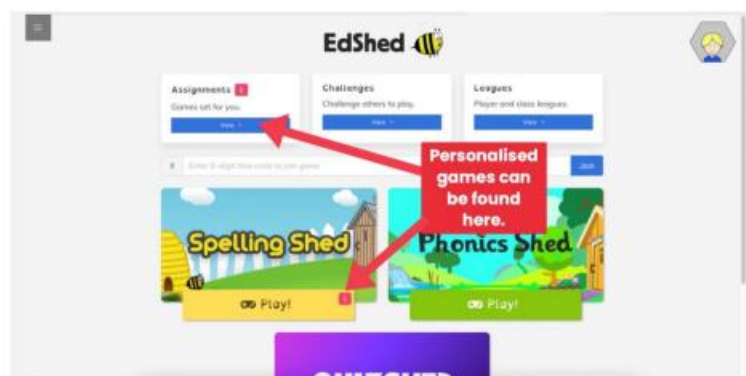
Spelling shed is a fun and interactive website where children can practice their weekly spellings. All children have their own logins and will receive weekly assignments (games to play) that have been set by their class teacher and are linked to their weekly spellings.

Visit: <https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/login> or download the Spelling Shed App.

Login using your child's username and password, which should be stuck on the inside of their yellow reading diary.



Once they have logged in they will see the home screen below. On the home screen they will be able to access specific assignments that have been set by their class teacher. The assignments will include games that consist of their weekly spellings. These will be updated regularly.



When you have clicked on your child's assignment for the week, they will be given the option to play different games. They will also be given the option to select the level of difficulty for each game from easy to extreme! They will have the opportunity to earn points and buy clothing/accessories for their avatar.



## Appendix 2- times tables



Times Table Rockstars is an award winning, fun, interactive platform for children to practise their times tables. The website was created by a maths teacher to bring fun into learning times tables. Armed with a blow-up guitar and a wig, he played rock music at the beginning of each maths lesson and encouraged his pupils to answer quick-fire times tables questions. This “little and often” approach in a fun and engaging way, quickly started to deliver results. After a pupil suggested that he turn it into an app, Times Tables Rock Stars was born!

Visit: [Times Tables Rock Stars: Play \(trockstars.com\)](https://trockstars.com) or download the app

Login using your child's username and password, which should be stuck on the inside of their yellow reading diary.