



SHARED LEARNING POLICY

Person responsible for policy:	Katy Wadsworth
Date approved:	September 2025
Review date:	September 2026

Rationale

Homework is not set for all pupils as a matter of course due to the complexity of learning, physical and health needs. It is recognised that most of the pupils would need a considerable amount of help and support from families to complete any formal homework on a regular basis. We also recognise that many of our pupils may be upset by the prospect of doing 'school work' outside of school so there is never any expectation for anyone to meet any deadlines and we do not want to add any unnecessary pressure onto any families. We have changed the terminology from 'Homework' to 'Shared Learning.'

Every pupil's individual education programme is agreed and confirmed with parents during their child's annual review. Parents Evenings provide formal opportunities to inform parents of their child's progress and how they can support their child at home.

For pupils with Severe and Complex Learning Needs there may be areas of development which are a priority to enhance their quality of life and to increase their independence. These include:

- The development of physical skills including sitting, standing, balance and walking.
- The development of communication skills.
- The development of engagement and attention skills.
- The development of personal and social skills including drinking, feeding and toileting.

Parents are offered advice and support from teaching staff and therapists to carry on individualised programmes at home.

In addition, all pupils in the primary department are sent home with reading books and learning tasks to share with parents, carers, siblings, and other family members. Families are encouraged to share the learning and write comments in the reading record/sheets. In the secondary department reading books are sent home though there are individuals for whom this may not always be appropriate when the pupil's chronological age is compared to their developmental level. Therefore, for such pupils it may be more relevant to suggest practical tasks linked to the development of independence skills.

Some of our pupils take home Shared Learning materials linked to Literacy and Numeracy on a weekly basis, usually for pupils to complete over a weekend. They may also be given project work, for example a science project or a project linked to work done in Film Club. Some of this

shared learning may be set online where appropriate.

If a pupil is having difficulties managing their behaviour the Behaviour Co-ordinators will provide advice and support to parents. They will share strategies to support the child to manage their behaviour and will make the necessary resources to enable parents and carers to carry out the strategies at home. These can include symbol timetables, visual structure, and reward systems such as a "Working Towards."

Monitoring and Evaluation.

This policy will be reviewed annually in line with the Home-School Agreement.