



Home Learning Policy

Equality at Merdon Junior School Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school. (See Initial Equality Impact Assessment)

Name of Headteacher:	Tom Johnston
Date Policy approved and adopted:	June 2026
Date Due for review:	June 2029

Purpose

At Merdon, we do not send out formal homework. We believe that our children work hard whilst they are at school and that home time is precious time to be spent with family and friends or on extra-curricular hobbies or relaxation. This links to our school ethos of 'Developing Thoughtful Learners for Future Successes' where we believe in supporting the 'whole child' and developing children's aspirations and skills in a range of areas including and beyond academic success. Research also shows that the impact of homework in primary schools is minimal; it can widen the gap for disadvantaged pupils and the stress and anxiety that it can cause in households and individuals can be impactful. Despite this, we do have daily expectations for parents/carers to support.

Expectation

We expect that all children read or are read to at home with an adult. Reading supports your child in every area of their learning. We also want to foster a love of reading that children take with them beyond their time at Merdon. Some children, particularly in the lower year groups, will have a reading book matched to their current ability. All children will have a library book of their choice to read. We would suggest reading aloud or reading together is part of the daily routine at home for all children.

We also ask that parents help their children to learn their times tables at home. Times Tables Rock Stars is used to support children with their times tables work at home. Other online games can also develop speed of recall, alongside other strategies such as writing times tables out, chanting them, singing them and making games with times tables facts.

We have a school subscription for Spelling Shed which children can access at home. Children are welcome to access spelling games at home to reinforce key skills in a fun and engaging way. Teachers may also upload the spellings that they are practising in school so they can be practised at home too.

In addition, year group curriculum leaflets outline the areas of study for each year group each term. Parents can support their child by completing additional research or visits develop their child's understanding further. Whilst there is no expectation that any additional research or activities are handed in, teachers will always be happy to see anything completed at home and children may share this with their class where appropriate.

How staff at Merdon support this policy:

- By ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of expectations, according to their ability.
- By communicating with parents and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics studied in class and their children's individual tasks.

How parents /carers can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to complete activities without the distractions of television, tablets, phones, other family members and pets.
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it.
- Support the school in explaining and valuing the activities.

- Encourage pupils and praise them when activities are completed.
- Share with school any issues arising from activities, including how well the children completed other activities, whether they were interesting / too easy / too hard, etc.

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with.
- Complete activities regularly and with a positive attitude.
- Be organised to look after and return books on the agreed dates.

Feedback for pupils/parents or carers and teachers

Feedback may be given in a variety of ways

- Verbal response from parents or carers and teachers
- Class discussion
- Tests eg. Spellings or tables
- Pupil/peer evaluation

Evaluation and Review

Date of Ratification	Sept 2026
Date for Next Review	Sept 2029
Comments:	