

# Lochnell Primary School

## Forward Planning



## Home Learning Policy



# Home Learning Policy

## 1. Rationale

At Lochnell, home learning is encouraged but not compulsory. We value family time and wellbeing as priorities, whilst recognising that short, regular practice at home supports learning in literacy, numeracy, and wider curriculum areas. Home learning should never cause stress or pressure — families are empowered to make the decision that works best for them.

This policy links directly to our Forward Planning, Assessment, and Jotter and Marking policies, ensuring consistency and clarity for learners, staff, and families.

## 2. Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Promote positive home–school partnerships.
- Reinforce classroom learning through manageable home tasks.
- Encourage independence and responsibility in learners.
- Provide opportunities for families to engage with learning in practical ways.
- Ensure home learning is proportionate, consistent, and aligned with school values.

## 3. Structure and Organisation

- **Weekly Schedule:** Home learning is set on a Monday (or at the start of term for longer periods with clear weekly breakdowns) and should be returned on Friday each week.
- **Time Expectation:** Children should spend no more than 30 minutes per day (Monday–Thursday) on home learning.
- **Flexibility:** If home learning would cause stress or interfere with family experiences, it may be skipped without consequence – class teachers will not challenge children who have not brought in home learning and will simply ask the class for anyone who has completed their home learning to put it in a set place for collection.

## 4. Home Learning Jotters

Each child has a Home Learning Jotter (see Jotter & Marking Policy). Jotters must remain in the child's school bag daily. This ensures:

- They are available for use in class.
- Digital login codes (kept inside the jotter) are always accessible.

Tasks may be completed in jotters or digitally via Seesaw. Where digital access is not possible, jotters provide equity of access.

## 5. Weekly Tasks

Each week, learners will normally receive:

1. Spelling & Grammar/Writing Task – linked to the weekly rule or sound.
2. Reading Task – appropriate to stage/ability, often linked to class texts.
3. Numeracy/Maths Task – skills practice or problem solving.
4. IDL / Project-Based Task – supporting wider learning themes.



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## 6. Digital Tools and Resources

All children have access to Seesaw for home learning tasks and communication. Additionally, all children have access to the following digital resources:

- Sumdog – supporting numeracy, spelling, and grammar.
- LetterJoin – for handwriting practice.

These resources are provided to support learning but are not mandatory each week. They can also be used in place of any given home learning task.

## 7. Feedback and Next Steps

Home learning will not be formally marked. Teachers will look through jotters weekly to inform planning, identify next steps, and celebrate effort. Verbal feedback may be given in class, and good practice may be shared.

Teachers should also make a note of children who do not regularly take part in home learning in order that we can identify any barriers or support families if required.

## 8. Roles and Responsibilities

**Teachers:** Provide clear, proportionate tasks aligned with class learning; review jotters weekly.

**Learners:** Attempt home learning with independence and effort; keep jotters in school bags.

**Parents/Carers:** Support encouragement and routines, but prioritise family wellbeing.

## 9. Inclusion and Flexibility

- Home learning is adapted to meet the needs of learners with ASN, EAL, or other barriers.
- Alternative formats (e.g. oral, digital, and practical) are valid and welcomed.
- Families are encouraged to communicate with staff if home learning is consistently unmanageable.

## 10. Links to National and Local Policy

This policy supports:

- Curriculum for Excellence – Partnership with parents/carers, literacy and numeracy across learning.
- UNCRC Article 28 – Right to education, including support for home learning.
- Argyll and Bute Council inclusion frameworks.
- Lochnell School Policies on Assessment, Forward Planning, and Jotter & Marking.