



Loving to Learn at Home

Why this matters at Great Milton

At Great Milton, our approach to home learning is rooted in one simple belief: **children thrive when learning feels joyful, purposeful and connected between home and school**. By moving away from the traditional idea of “homework” and reframing it as ***Loving to Learn at Home***, we are placing children’s wellbeing, curiosity and long-term learning habits at the centre.

The benefits for families and children

A stronger home–school partnership

- When families understand what matters most in learning, they can support their child in ways that feel natural and manageable. Reading together, practising number facts, talking about school projects and sharing learning missions all help children feel that home and school are working as one team.

Protecting childhood and wellbeing

- We recognise that children need time to play, rest, imagine and pursue their own interests. Our approach ensures that home learning supports wellbeing rather than competes with it.

Building the foundations for future success

- Reading fluency, comprehension, spelling patterns and number facts are the skills that unlock learning at secondary school and beyond. Practising these little and often at home makes a significant difference to children’s confidence and progress.

Inspiring curiosity beyond the classroom

- Our curriculum is deliberately rich and memorable. Children often want to continue exploring topics at home—through books, creative projects, research or conversations. We celebrate this self-directed learning because it shows children becoming independent, motivated learners.

Age-appropriate expectations

- As children grow, they become more able to organise themselves, practise independently and apply their knowledge. Our guidance reflects this, ensuring home learning is meaningful, manageable and developmentally appropriate.

Guidelines and expectations by age:

Early Years/Year 1/Year 2

Parental involvement is essential

- **Daily** reading recorded in reading journal (with an adult/older sibling)
- Practise words learned in class: lists on class webpage
- Practise counting and number bonds learned in class: lists on class webpage (supported by programs such as Numbots)
- Learn facts on Project Knowledge Organisers
- Complete a Learning Mission to share

Years 3-4

Parental involvement is essential

- **Daily** reading recorded in reading journal (preferably with an adult/older sibling)
- Practise words learned in class: lists on class webpage (Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check)
- Practise times tables
- Learn facts on Project Knowledge Organisers
- Complete a Learning Mission to share

Year 5

Parental involvement is desirable but not essential. If your child would benefit from extra practice with any of the skills below, please do continue to support them at home.

- **Daily** reading recorded in reading journal (to an adult/older sibling or independent)
- Number facts and practise times tables (supported by programs such as TimesTable Rock Stars)
- Practise words learned in class: lists on class webpage (Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check)
- Learn facts on Project Knowledge Organisers
- Complete a Learning Mission to share

Year 6

Parental involvement is desirable but not essential. If your child would benefit from extra practice with any of the skills below, please do continue to support them at home.

- **Daily** reading recorded in reading journal (to an adult/older sibling or independent)
- Number facts and practise times tables (supported by programs such as TimesTable Rock Stars)
- Practise words learned in class: lists on class webpage (Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check)
- Learn facts on Project Knowledge Organisers
- Complete a Learning Mission to share
- SATs revision books (from January)

Other ways to extend your child's knowledge and understanding

- **Incorporate reading and basic maths skills in everyday life**
 - reading road signs on a journey
 - calculate the distance between stops on a journey
 - counting steps as you walk, predicting how many between the next two gates/lamp posts/roads ...
 - cooking by reading recipes and weighing ingredients
 - shopping lists – reading, writing, adding cost, calculating the change
- **Practise telling the time**
 - How long before bedtime? Swimming lesson? ...
 - Play What's the time Mr Wolf
 - Tell me when it is.... Dinner time, time for school ...
- **Play board games** – these promote turn taking, patience, tolerance, sharing as well as reading and maths skills.
- **Take a trip out**
 - Museum – history, science
 - Park – builds on character, maths, science
 - Gardens/arboretums

Ask questions, look closely at the environment around you whether at home or outside. Encourage conversation and questions will be asked. Talk is one of the most important ways to communicate, understand and develop a love of learning.

Online learning

Great Milton C of E Primary School has subscriptions to TT Rockstars, Numbots, Monster Phonics, Language Nut which can all be accessed from home. All children have individual logins for some of these platforms, which they also use in school. Your child should speak to the class teacher if they need a reminder of their log-in details.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/public/auth/family>

<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login-type?>

<https://www.languagehut.com/en-gb/>

<https://ebooks.monsterphonics.com/>

Other useful sites:

BBC games

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/learning-area/reading-and-writing>

KS1 BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z3g4d2p>

KS2 BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

Maths Playground

<https://www.mathplayground.com/>

Online Safety

With our fast-moving technology, it is extremely important that school and home develop children's understanding of how to protect themselves when online. It is everyone's responsibility to teach our children how to be safe.

Newsround Quiz – Internet Safety

Test your knowledge of internet safety with this quiz from CBBC Newsround. There's also further information if you're not sure about anything.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/14979083>

CBBC Stay Safe

Do you know how to stay safe online? Lots of ways for you to OWN IT

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit>

Common Sense Media

Reviews for what your children watch (before they watch it).

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

Internet Matters

From age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, you'll find a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>