



# POLICY PROGRESS GUIDE



North Tyneside Council

## Beacon Hill School and Specialist College for Business and Enterprise

### Home Learning Policy

Policy adopted

June 2016

Date

Interim policy review

N/A

Date

Full policy review

June 2018

Date

Governors  
Responsibility

Partnership Committee

Teacher Co-ordinator

Helen Jones

Signed

13<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Chair of Committee

Sheila Clapperton

Signed

13<sup>th</sup> June 2016



## **Home Learning Policy**

Parents, in the context of this policy, can be taken to mean biological parents, adoptive parents, long term foster parents of other carers who have full parental responsibility for a child.

This policy fulfils the following aims of Beacon Hill school:

- Develop learning for life, lifelong learning
- Are happy, healthy and heard
- Widen aspirations through innovative technology
- Empower families
- Communicate effectively
- Maximise independence
- Nurture core values of respect and friendship
- Promote inclusive communities
- Extend confidence
- Ensure inspiring positive partnerships
- Celebrate and extend creativity

### **The Aims of Home Learning**

To increase pupils progress.

To help pupils develop habits of independent learning

To involve parents in their children's learning

To give time for practise and over learning

To increase home school communication

To value the wide range of pupil learning activities

To generalise skills in different settings

### **Principles**

- Pupils at Beacon Hill have a wide range of needs and traditional homework may not be relevant to them. However they will benefit from planned home learning and will be given opportunities for this.
- Ideas for home learning opportunities are included in the weekly newsletter.
- Home learning must be a positive experience for all. It is important that it does not become a cause of upset and concern in families or between home and school.
- Home learning forms an important part of the Home/school agreement.
- Home learning will be included on every pupil's IEP each term.

- It is important that home learning is consistent across classes and departments as this values the work that parents do at home and that staff do preparing and marking the work.

### Guidelines

- Where home learning is set as part of a pupil's IEP the teacher needs to ensure that parents have the correct equipment at home.
- Home learning tasks need to be differentiated and the language used should be clear to parents. 'Reading' can be interpreted as being able to read a text independently or reading along while an adult reads. It could also include recognition of signs and symbols for some young people.
- Home learning will be age appropriate - students at 6<sup>th</sup> Form need to practise skills for independent living.
- Work for pupils with ASC will consider the triad of impairment and will be suited to their individual needs and learning styles.
- Pupil's home learning will be monitored as part of the ongoing school self evaluation cycle
- Information about this policy will be part of Teachers and Teaching Assistant induction.
- Social stories are also used as part of home learning for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder in particular. These aim to help parents with particular issues such as puberty and sleeping or behaviour when out in the community.
- Home learning will not be 'new' learning. This needs to be taught in school where understanding and mistakes can be carefully monitored. Home learning is the practise of learning and reinforcement of understanding in another context.
- The home-school book and student planners will be the method of communication used for home learning. It is important parents inform school if pupils are finding the work easy or difficult. Teachers could use stickers to inform parents of when the homework was set and when it is due in to school.
- Parents should have the opportunity to evaluate their child's progress towards the home learning on their IEP by letter which comes out to them with the IEP.
- Written homework will be marked positively and pupils will be involved in and aware of this marking.
- Reasonably priced bags, to ensure home learning travels between school and home safely, are available to buy from school.
- Increasingly ICT will be used to communicate about home learning between home and school. An example of this is the Getting In Touch Project where parents created their own home learning resources on a designated shared area.
- The weekly class emails will give opportunities for Home Learning across the class.