



About This Policy

The aim of our Home Learning Policy is to communicate our home learning expectations for each year group.

Aims and Objectives

The main purpose of this guidance document is to ensure that all our key stakeholders share the same message regarding our ethos of home learning.

At Nord Anglia International School New York (NAISNY), we believe there are many benefits to home learning.

Appropriate and purposeful home learning can lead to improved academic outcomes by deepening knowledge, strengthening independence, developing effective time management skills, and enabling students to have fun with their learning outside of the classroom. Additionally, it also encourages parents to engage in their child's learning, fostering positive attitudes towards school.

We aim to ensure that home learning is an opportunity to enable students to show skills and talents they may not be able to as confidently in class. It is an opportunity for students to take further risks and extend their knowledge beyond their time in school. It enables the students to take ownership of their understanding and progress.

We aim for our home learning to be realistic in length and difficulty, challenging enough to be interesting and engaging.

Reading

Reading is an important skill. We aim to provide students with opportunities to read for pleasure and to practice their reading skills at home. Students can read in a variety of ways at home (e.g., they can read independently, to an adult or with an adult).

Each month, students in Years 3-9 will be asked to take part in a 'book talk.' This will be a presentation to showcase what they learned about in their chosen book.

Our students have:

- Access to library books they can take home.
- Access to the Reading Quest providing students with an opportunity to interact with the books they are reading and to develop their wider literacy skills, including our e-books.
- Reading books sent home by the class teacher, which will be recorded in the reading journal (N-Y2).
- Students in Years 3-4 will record their reading at home in their reading journals.

Home Learning Expectations

Within each phase of the school, the expectations of home learning will vary slightly. We have set out the expectations for each phase of the school which include the activities set and the approximate time to complete them. Times are a guidance and home learning can be stopped if the activity takes too long.

All students are reminded in class that home learning expectations should mirror the expectations from learning at school.

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Early Years

- All home learning is optional in Early Years.
- Teachers will send specific guidance with how parents can support their child.
- Read, Write Inc (RWI) guidance will be sent. RWI is used to guide and support our students in phonics, reading and writing and book bags will be sent home to support the students in their learning.

Lower School

In Lower School, the home learning will be given out in books to be completed at home. This grows through each phase of the school and increases as the students' progress.

Home learning is given out on a Friday and the students are expected to return their books no later than the following Wednesday.

Year 1 and 2:

- Will receive a weekly math task. This will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.
- Are expected to read every day for 20 minutes. This can be a combination of independent reading, reading with an adult or a blend.
- Will be asked to practice spelling and times tables each day. For this, 5 minutes of practice of each would be optimal to help the students reinforce these skills.

Year 3 and 4:

- Will have a weekly math and English task. This will take approximately 30 minutes for each to be completed.
- Are expected to read every day for 30 minutes. This can be a combination of independent reading, reading with an adult or a blend.
- Will be asked to practice spelling and times tables each day. For this, 10 minutes of practice of each would be optimal to help the students reinforce these skills.

Home Learning Menu

In addition to the regular home learning set each week in Lower School, children will receive Home Learning Menus for each new topic. These are optional projects that offer opportunities to extend and deepen learning experiences. Students will choose from a list of themed activities based around their International Primary Curriculum (IPC) topic for each half term.

There will be a range of activities included with each menu. These will be linked to the theme and cover a range of curriculum areas and challenge. House points will be awarded when projects are completed with more being awarded for longer projects and outstanding effort.

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Upper School

In Upper School, home learning tasks are issued on a weekly basis and cover a range of activities across a breadth of the curriculum. Each week, home learning is set on Tuesdays and then returned to school the following Monday.

All Upper School students:

- Are expected to read for 30 minutes daily. Additionally, they are expected to spend 10 minutes daily learning their key vocabulary and spelling words.
- Will complete 20 minutes of homework in Spanish per week.

Year 5 and 6:

- Will be set tasks on Microsoft Teams and in their home learning books or homework folders (for English and math). This gives the students the option to access home learning both digitally and in paper form.
- Will complete 30 minutes of homework, per subject, in math, English, science and IPC (International Primary Curriculum).

Years 7-9:

- Will be set tasks on Microsoft Teams and can be complete these digitally.
- In Years 7-9, students will complete up to 1 hour of homework, per subject, in math, English, science and IMYC (International Middle Years Curriculum).

Marking and feedback

All home learning across the school will be marked using the school's Marking and Feedback guidance.

Lower school home learning will be marked before the new home learning is set.

In Upper School, Year 5 and 6 home learning will be marked before a new piece is sent home to families each Tuesday. Years 7-9 will be marked within a week and cleared on Microsoft Teams.

How Parents can Help Students at Home

Here are some suggestions as to how you can support your child at home:

- Set up a comfortable area with no distractions.
- Schedule a home learning time, enabling your child to get into a consistent routine.
- Check your child is clear about what is expected of them. Work through any examples with your child.
- Encourage your child to be independent but monitor as needed.
- If needed, use online resources to help you e.g., an online dictionary.
- Remind students that home learning expectations mirror the expectations from school.
- Most important of all - praise efforts; not just correct answers!

Important Note

Please take care of all borrowed items that go home from school. Throughout the year, we will be sending home books. Please ensure that they are returned to school in the same condition so that others can continue to enjoy them. If books are lost, or damaged beyond use, we will have to request payment to replace them.

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