



## So why is homework important?

Home Learning tasks help your child to:

- ✓ Learn how to organise and manage their time
- ✓ Take responsibility for their own learning
- ✓ Practise and build on what they have learned at school
- ✓ Develop confidence to deal with frustrations
- ✓ Overcome difficulties and solve problems
- ✓ Learn and work independently in the future.



*Extract from 'Making the difference: Homework' Scottish Executive*

## Consultation

During the Parent Consultations (20/10/15 and 22/10/15) a number of different options for Home Learning were shared. We detailed the purpose of home learning and our central aims in creating a new approach.

There was an opportunity for parents/carers to vote on the preferred format and make suggestions to ensure the model we adopted for Home Learning is:

- valuable
- enjoyable for all
- provides opportunities for children to be creative
- providing choice in the tasks and how learners undertake them.



## The New Format

We also listened to feedback that the 'highlights sheet' was something that families found helpful in supporting their children at home.

We have incorporated the highlights information into our new format.

The new sheet will outline the planned focus for the coming weeks. It will then detail some core home learning tasks that all children will be expected to complete. Not all curricular areas will be represented on every sheet but over the course of the session there will be a balance of subjects and skills which will reflect the learning being done in class.

There will also be options for challenges. This section is voluntary. Children and families can select which of these they would like to complete based on interest, skills and knowledge with a view to extending thinking and provide further depth to the experience. It will incorporate flexibility as to how the learning is approached and shared. Depending on the nature of the tasks included each issue of the sheet may run for a different timescale. *This will be clearly indicated on the sheet.*

- *At Campie we are aware that it is the quality that matters, not quantity – the kind of home learning we develop for your child is more important than the amount.*
- *Parents can best support by being positive and encouraging – homework is for children not parents!*

### Reading:



- *Children in the Early Years will continue to follow a programme of regular guided and shared reading opportunities.*
- *As children become more confident readers they should read regularly at home. Reading of novels will be encouraged but also to access a wide range of texts including non-fiction.*



### Home Learning should:

- *Be enjoyable*
- *Be relevant*
- *Provide opportunities for personalisation and choice.*

### It should not:

- *Lead to upset or distress*
- *Be overly time consuming. . .*

*If your child seems to be spending too long completing a task, is upset or not sure of what to do – please stop the task and let the teacher know.*

## Feedback and Marking.



The tasks that the children are asked to complete will most likely not be paper based. It could be an outdoor experience, prepare a presentation, conduct an investigation . . . a whole range of active tasks!

To indicate that your child has engaged successfully with the task you can sign the sheet to confirm. You can also share any comment/s about particular strengths or skills that you saw being used or support your child in developing next steps in response to their experience.

In school children will be given opportunities to share the significant aspects of their learning with the class teacher and their peers. Feedback will be given during these times that will be 'built into' your child's week.



## Focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Mathematics.

Within the task sheet your child may be asked to complete numeracy and mathematical tasks linked to the work being done in class.

Reading and spelling will follow the format that has been set in term one. This will continue to be shared through reading diaries etc. and will run concurrently with the new Home Learning Sheet.



(Where appropriate,) reading and spelling will begin:

Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016

The new format will launch from:

Week beginning Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January

*We will seek feedback and review the approach in the final term of this session.*