St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

How Good is Our School 4
Q.I. 2.5 Family Learning • Engaging families in learning • Early intervention and prevention • Quality of family learning programmes

In St Leonard's Primary School, we want our pupils to develop the skills they need for lifelong learning and future success.

Learning at home

'Learning at home is the learning which happens in the home, outdoors or in the community. It can take place through everyday activities that families already do and can overlap with aspects of organised or active learning activities.' (Scottish Parental Involvement Officers Network, 2018)

Learning at home can happen through a range of events including play, leisure activities (clubs), fun events, sports, trips, cultural or volunteering experiences and everyday family life. It can also happen through curriculum related activities, homework, reading and sharing books. Activities for learning at home can be specifically designed to enable parents to engage in their child's learning and build upon the learning from school.

Learning at home for St Leonard's primary has traditionally taken the form of weekly written/online homework in the form of spelling, reading and numeracy tasks, which pupils are expected to complete during the week. Over the past few years, we had become acutely aware of reduced engagement in homework from pupils across the school at all stages. This has prompted us to consult with our school stakeholder groups on home learning in order to better understand its value and plan for future provision.

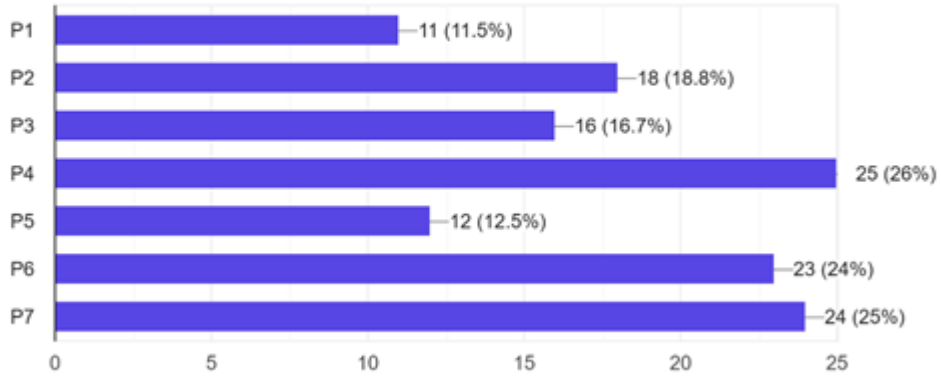
The results from our recent parent and staff consultation are as follows and we have now taken on board these results and written the attached overview of what home learning will look like. This will be effective from Monday 19th October 2026 as our new term commences.

St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

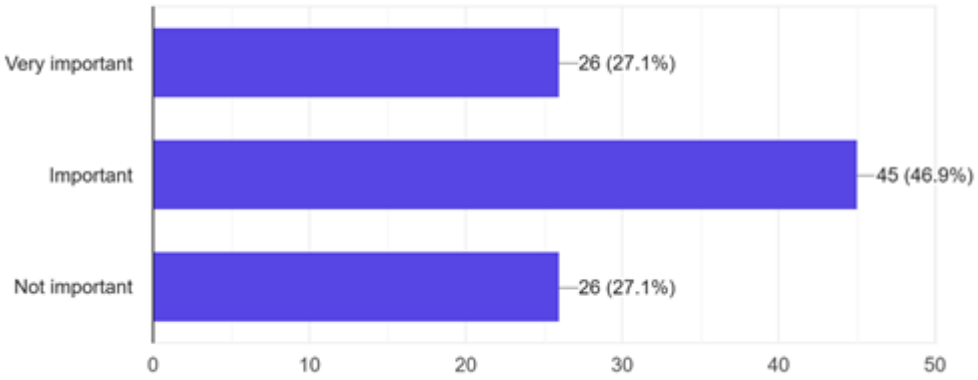
Parental Consultation on Homework – August 2026

Results

Please tick the primary stage of your child/children.
96 responses



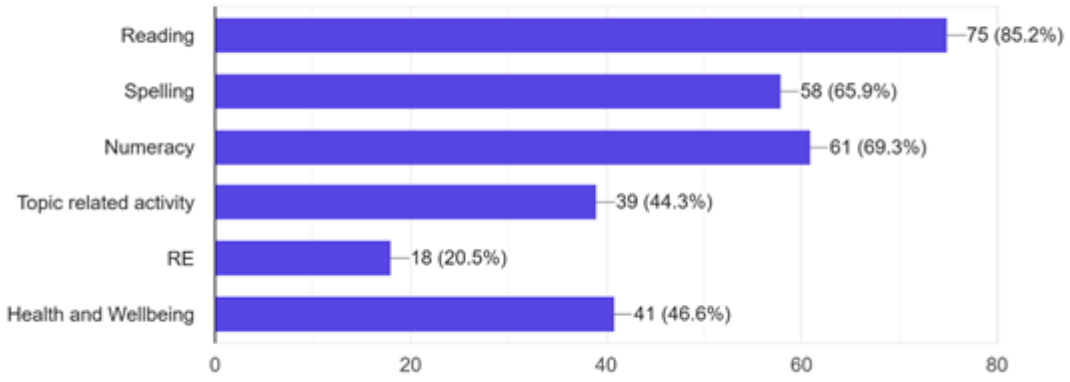
How important do you think homework is?
96 responses



St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

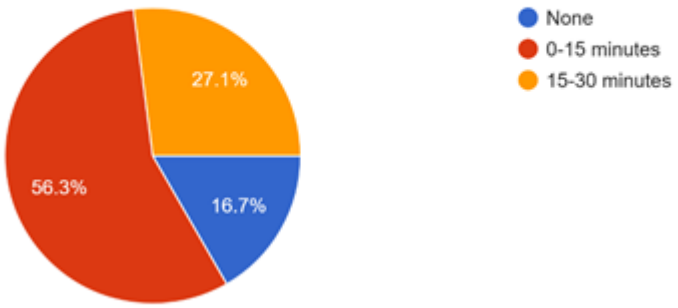
What types of homework do you feel are most beneficial? Please tick all that apply.

88 responses



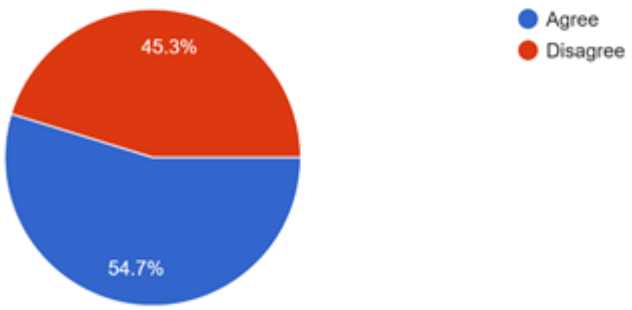
How much time do you think children should spend on homework each night?

96 responses



Would you agree with a 'No Homework' policy?

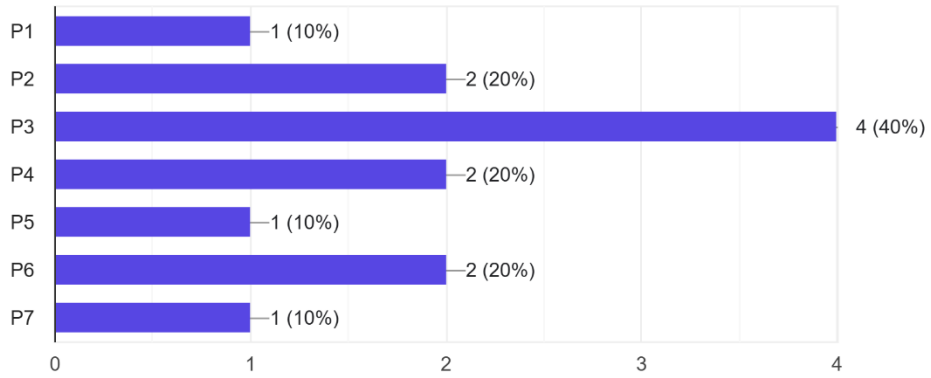
95 responses



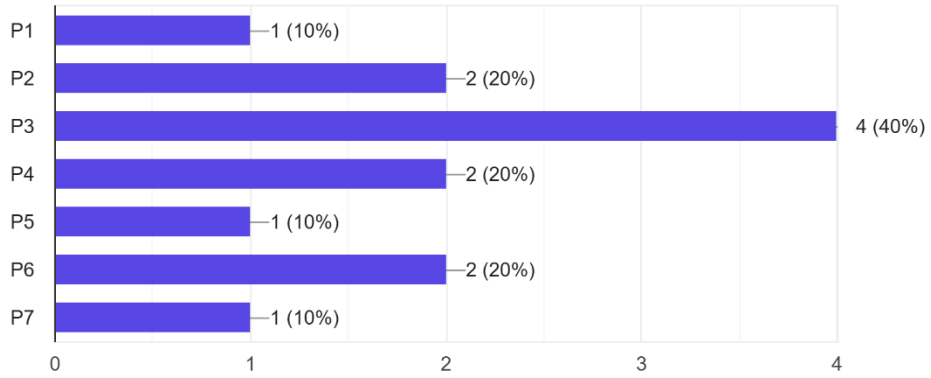
St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

Staff Consultation on Homework Results – August 2026

Please tick the primary stage/s of your class.
10 responses



Please tick the primary stage/s of your class.
10 responses



St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

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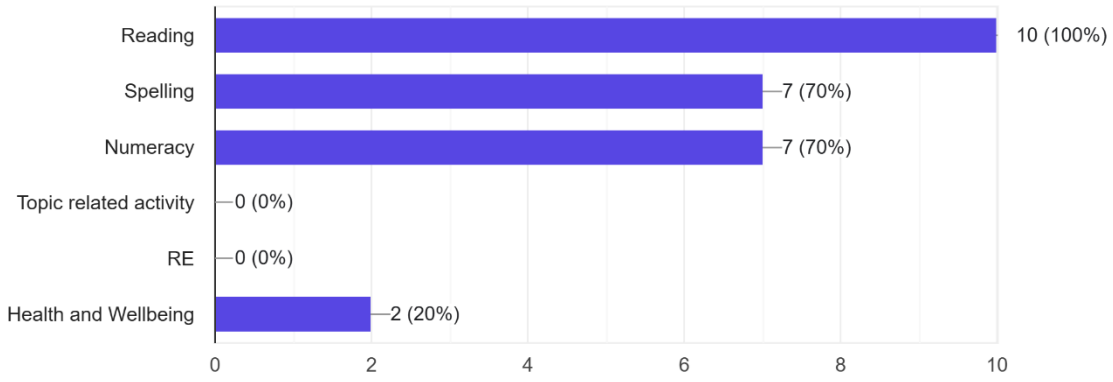
10 responses



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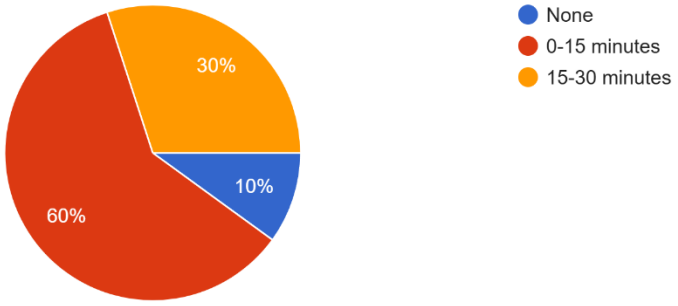

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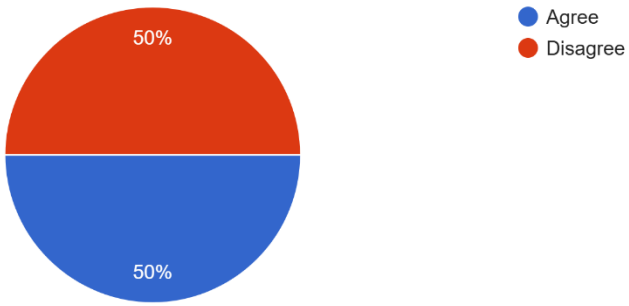

St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

What will Home Learning look like?

Primary 1 & 2

In Primary 1 & 2, pupils will bring home paper copies of activities to support their learning throughout the year. Each child will have a home learning issued, which will be sent home on a Monday and should be returned by the Friday of that week. Home learning will contain:

- one Literacy task
- one Numeracy task
- common words list
- reading for enjoyment book pack/or school library book
- life skills grid (for P1 pupils only)

Reading and Phonics

Activities will include practising initial sounds, reading a book together at home and revising words from your child's word list.

Numeracy

Home learning will focus on written activities to develop number understanding, numeracy concepts, and correct number formation. Some tasks may also include online games, with links shared via your child's Google Classroom.

How can you help your child?

Home learning tasks are a valuable opportunity for you to support your child's progress by revisiting and consolidating what they have learned in class.

In addition, a termly overview will be shared on Google Classroom to inform you of key learning focuses for that period.

St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

Primary 3 to Primary 7

At the start of each term, your child's teacher will share an overview on Google Classroom, of the upcoming focuses across the curriculum for the block of learning ahead, providing opportunities for parents and pupils to extend the learning at home.

From our consultation, it was agreed that reading, spelling and numeracy were the most important types of home learning while also indicating a desire for an opportunity to include Health and Wellbeing, topic and RE activities. Under these identified priorities, the following guidance will be provided:

- Spelling and Writing – a list of each child's weekly spelling that is being used in class will be posted with an overview of activities that can be undertaken at home to practise and apply the skills developed in class
- Reading – Reading for pleasure should be part of a daily routine at home where possible, e.g. 10 minutes of reading per night. This can be a book of their own from home or a book from the school library. Every child has the opportunity weekly to visit the school library and borrow a book.
- Numeracy and Maths – links to games/online activities that will consolidate learning in class

On occasions, children may also be asked to prepare for a class talk or complete a task linked to their topic, health and wellbeing or religious education. They might also be given optional activities (competitions) linked to special themed weeks in school.

Homework should not be submitted unless specifically stated on the Google Classroom.

St. Leonard's Primary
Home Learning Policy – September 2026

How can you help your child with their home learning?

Below is a list of ways that as a parent/carer you can show your child that you value their home learning, and the time and effort spent completing it.

As a school we hope that you find this guidance helpful in supporting your child fully with their home learning.

You can show you value your child's home learning by:

- Providing a suitable place in which your child can do their home learning, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support
- Making it clear to your child that you value home learning and support the school in explaining how it can help learning and development of skills
- Encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set

Additionally, you can support your child's development by:

- Visits to libraries, museums etc
- Cooking with them
- Taking your child to clubs/swimming
- Playing games e.g. board games, cards
- Providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting
- Gardening and growing plants and vegetables
- Using the internet to research areas of interest with your child (supervised and following safe internet use guidance)
- Talking to your child about their learning and their day at school
- Supporting with numeracy e.g. adding up items in the supermarket, what change will I receive, what time is it?

Remember that home learning is about reinforcing, practising and confidence building. Enthusing your child about undertaking home learning and modelling the high value of home learning to them is of key importance. Make it fun!

Individual needs of children

All home learning should be appropriate for the differing needs of children. From time to time, additional tasks may be set in order to support a pupil. This will always be done in consultation with parents/carers and teaching staff.