



Home Discovery Guidance

1 Scope

Home Discovery is work that is set to be completed independently, and outside of the school day. It contains an element of independent discovery that is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. It is important in raising pupil achievement.

Home Discovery helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes that they will need for successful lifelong learning. Home Discovery also supports the development of independent learning skills and significantly, it provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.

Home Discovery promotes curiosity, improves achievement, and develops students' study skills; as such, it is an integral part of the curriculum.

2 Requirements

Aims of Home Discovery

Home Discovery enables students to:

- consolidate and extend work covered in class
- access resources not available in the classroom
- develop research skills
- have an opportunity for independent work
- show progress and understanding
- have opportunities for experimenting
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline
- take ownership and responsibility for learning
- engage parental co-operation and support
- create channels for home school dialogue

The type of Home Discovery

Home Discovery can be (but this is not an exhaustive list):

- Independent learning
- Consolidation of work in class
- Practice - learning by doing
- Research
- Reading
- Experimenting and exploring
- Drawing
- Using ICT
- Recording

Home Discovery and the role of parents and carers

The role of the parent is crucial if a child is to gain success from Home Discovery. Parents can reinforce its value through positive feedback in order to give pupils the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

- Providing a suitable place to work at home.
- Negotiating with their child when Home Discovery is to be done and modeling a good work life balance.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks, not too little or too long.
- Ensuring that outside clubs and activities do not hamper a child's quality of work and put a child under undue pressure.
- Checking presentation and content of all Home Discovery exercises being returned to school.
- Communicating with teachers in relation to any problems concerning Home Discovery.

Home Discovery and the role of the Class Teacher

The class teacher controls the direction of Home Discovery and the nature of tasks undertaken.

The teacher will:

- Set Home Discovery menus for each topic.
- Provide the stimulus and context for the tasks.
- Provide a wide variety of tasks that engage and stimulate different children
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Ensure time is given for children to feedback and share their learning with their peers and to use a merit stamp in the Home Discovery Journals
- Provide help and support if needed.

In all cases Home Discovery will be differentiated by the outcome of the work produced.

Reporting of Home Discovery to Parents

Termly Review Days and reports will be an opportunity for teachers to comment on any tasks that have been completed or to check that tasks are being done.

3 Key Terms and Definitions

ACRONYM	TERM	DEFINITION

Amendment Record

VERSION #	DATE	AMENDED BY	NATURE OF CHANGE
2.0	3/7/12	R. Mullins	Minor changes
3.0	26/4/18	H Sowden	Updating for Mill Lane
