

# St Nicholas' Primary



## Home Learning Policy

(Updated August 2023)

### **Rationale**

Traditionally home learning was set daily or weekly by class teachers which children would complete and return in order for it to be marked. Research suggests that this type of home learning does not necessarily benefit pupils' attainment in the long term and because many of our children were not returning the tasks set, we decided to review our procedures.

There is little evidence to suggest that the traditional model (a compulsory piece of work set and marked by the teacher) impacts positively on children's learning. It is very work intensive for teachers for very little gain. Spending 10 minutes with your child playing a game, practising a skill orally or reading is more effective than sitting your child down to do a worksheet. Therefore, after the increased confidence of digital technology during the pandemic, we have decided to continue to use and develop our learners' digital skills by utilising IT within our weekly home learning tasks. This also provides opportunities for parents to actively engage with their children's learning.

After the pandemic a consultation demonstrated that most pupils and parents would welcome a change to the traditional home learning. The majority of parents value opportunities to extend their child's learning at home by doing tasks with them, although a number of parents do not wish to do any type of homework with their child as they feel the other out of school activities they engage in are more valuable. Many of our families have working parents and children who attend clubs and out of school activities, therefore our approach to home learning ensures that it meets the needs of all our learners and their families.

### **Approach to Home Learning**

On a weekly basis, each class will be set a variety of home learning tasks that link to the learning in school through either SEESAW (P1 and P2 classes) or TEAMS (P3-7 classes). These tasks will vary depending on the learning focus and stage of learning. These learning tasks are entirely optional and can be completed at any time that suits learners and their

families. Through our consultation with parents it was noted that many families felt that they have more time at weekends than during the week.

Here is an overview of different home learning tasks that may be set.

### **Reading**

For younger children we will ask parents to work with their child to consolidate skills for reading e.g. learning initial sounds, practising reading school texts and reading for enjoyment.

Older children are asked to read texts of their choice regularly. We have provided access to Bug Club to give all families a range of different texts they can enjoy with their child.

### **Spelling**

We encourage parents to practise common words and spelling sounds at home with their child and provide a choice of activities to support them with this. Each week we will upload a list of spelling words for children to practise.

### **Numeracy**

Children will be encouraged to consolidate their learning through online portals such as Sumdog and Studyladder as well as opportunities to rehearse times tables and number bonds through playing practical games.

### **Other areas**

Throughout the year, classes may be set tasks that link to other areas of the curriculum such as Social Studies, Science HWB and develop research, enquiry and presentation skills.

There may be times, where a learner requires additional support with a specific aspect of their classwork. If this is the case the class teacher will make contact with you and provide you with resources that will help you support your child with their learning. This would be bespoke for your child and in addition to the home Learning provided at class level.

### **Further Information**

Although most of the Home Learning is in digital format, if learners require additional resources like jotters, pencils. This will be issued by the class teacher.

Learners will not normally be issued with home learning tasks when they are absent from school. Any missed learning will be addressed on their return and any additional tasks will be set by the class teacher if required.

You will find more information and support on how to access TEAMS within the appendices. We are always on hand to support families with any access difficulties so please contact the school if there any issues regarding this. If at any time you want to discuss the content of the home learning, please contact the class teacher as per the school communications policy.

## Appendix 1 Our Home Learning Vision

<p><b>Flexible</b></p> <p><b>Active</b></p> <p><b>Motivational</b></p> <p><b>Important</b></p> <p><b>Linked</b></p> <p><b>Your Choice</b></p>	<p>Family life is busy! We want to support learning which can be done at a time to suit you. Some weeks you may choose to do a few activities and other weeks none.</p> <p>Learning should be active. Active learning engages and challenges children’s thinking. Children learn best when they are playing, talking, exploring and investigating.</p> <p>Learning should be fun! It is important that children learn about things they are interested in. By providing choice we want to increase engagement.</p> <p>Family time is important. Home learning activities have been designed to encourage positive family experiences – playing, talking, sharing. You may decide to engage in alternative experiences than those suggested by the school.</p> <p>Many of the of learning activities designed by the teachers will link directly with what is going on in class.</p> <p>Home learning will not be marked by the class teacher. Teachers will, however, encourage children to share and celebrate home learning achievements in class.</p> <p>It is your choice what and how many activities you do.</p>
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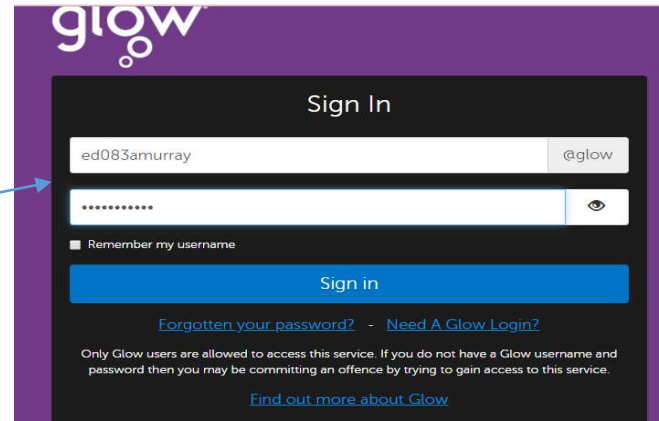
## Appendix 2 -Accessing TEAMS

### Accessing Glow Teams from Launch Pad

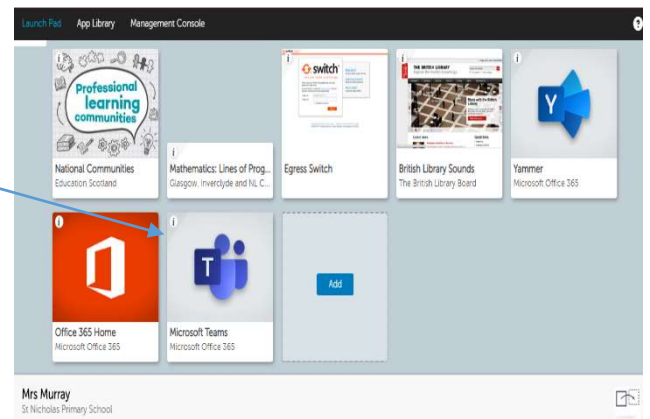
<https://sts.platform.rmunify.com/account/signin/glow>

Or google 'Glow log in'

1. Log in to glow using Username and password



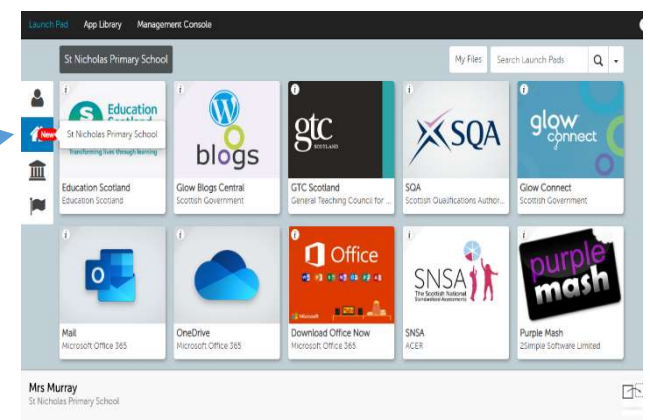
2. Select Microsoft Teams from your launch pad.



#### **HELP!**

If you cannot see the tile for Teams, check you are on the school launch pad.

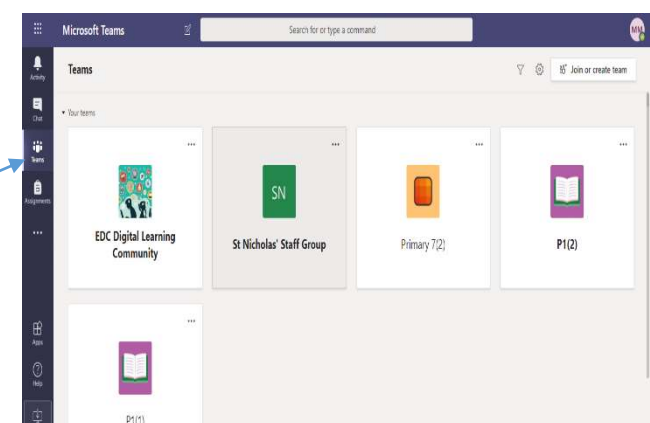
You may have to scroll down to see the TEAMS tile.



Select the Team you want –  
Your class group

#### **Help!**

If your team doesn't show, click on teams at the left hand side of the screen.



## Teams Troubleshooting Guide

Some pupils may experience issues accessing Microsoft Teams from certain devices/browsers at home and I have outlined solutions to these issues below:

### Accessing MS Teams from a Mac Computer

Please note that MS Teams does not work on Safari. Therefore, if your child/ren are using Mac computers/laptops at home please download the Google Chrome browser (for free at [https://www.google.co.uk/intl/en\\_uk/chrome/](https://www.google.co.uk/intl/en_uk/chrome/)) in order to allow them access to MS Teams as normal via their Glow login.

### Accessing MS Teams from a Tablet/Phone

When children login to their Glow accounts using a tablet/phone the MS Teams tile does not work. In order to access MS Teams from a tablet or phone please download the free MS Teams App. You will then be prompted to login to the app.

When logging in via the app, your child needs to use their email address in this format: **ed083jsmith@glow.sch.uk**, **NOT** the version that ends in @st-nicholas.e-dunbarton.sch.uk Your child will then be asked to enter their GLOW Password.

### Accessing Files on Teams

Sometimes an error message appears, and you cannot view/access any files on TEAMS.

If this happens, click on the 3 dots at the top right hand side of the page and select ***open in SharePoint***. (Sometimes this option is available without having to select the 3 dots!)

