



St Mary's CE Primary School

Homework Policy

Reviewed: October 2021

Next Review: October 2023

"I pray that out of the glorious riches, He may strengthen you with power through His spirit in your inner being" Ephesians 3:16

Introduction

In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. Homework is seen as an essential part of good education that supports children's development as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Aims and Objectives

Regular, well planned homework should:

- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- Develop good working habits and self - discipline for the future
- Encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school
- Provide opportunities for individualised work and develop skills of independent learning
- Offer access to resources not found in school (public libraries, local museums etc.)
- Support and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work

Principles

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance
- As the children progress through the school so the amount of homework increases.
- Teachers ensure that the tasks are differentiated, purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills.
- High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.
- Homework should be linked to previous learning and key skills and must be meaningful and relevant

Role of the Class Teacher

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work or via the class dojo.
- To ensure children have the necessary resources and equipment to complete their homework at home
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To set homework that takes equal and racial opportunities into account.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework appropriately, when necessary and give feedback to pupils

N.B. Whilst there is a legal responsibility for a school to set homework on a regular basis, the school cannot enforce the completion of homework. We will endeavour to provide opportunities for homework to be completed during the school day and allow extra time for it to be handed in if it is not possible for homework to be completed at home within the allocated time.

Homework Tasks

The amount and difficulty of the homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability

- Class 1: - Daily reading and weekly phonic based activities
- Weekly spelling test (from January of Year 1)
- Class 2: - Daily reading
- Weekly spelling and maths worksheets
- Class 3: - Reading 2 or 3 times per week
- Weekly spelling and maths worksheets
- Class 4: - Weekly spelling and maths worksheets
- Children may also be set a grammar activity and/or a topic based activity

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- To know that they can contact their child's class teacher via the class dojo if support with homework is required

Whole Class Remote Learning

During any period of Class Remote Learning, homework will be temporarily suspended. Children may submit additional work via the class dojo but there will not be any additional work set as homework, unless it is felt particularly relevant.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team in conjunction with Government guidelines and updates.