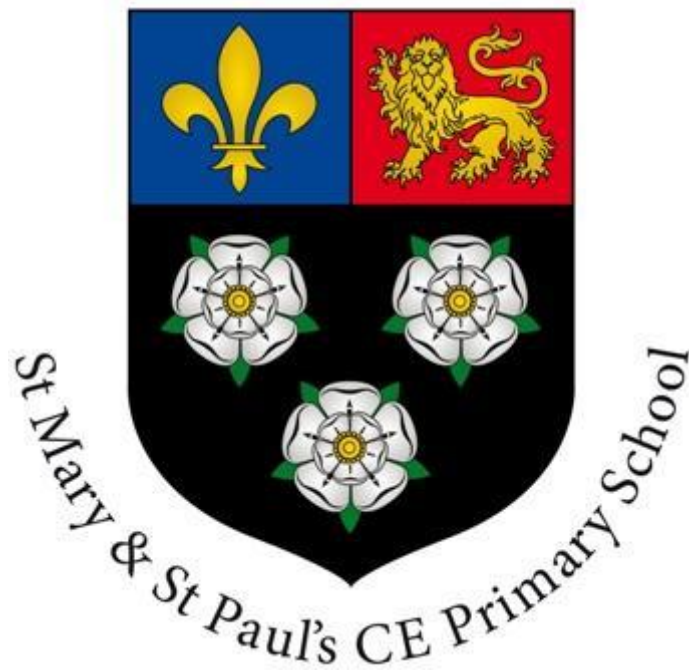


St Mary & St Paul's
CE Primary School



Homework Policy

September 2024

“Life in all its fullness through
Learning and Love”

This policy will be reviewed regularly and re-presented to The Governing Body as appropriate if significant changes are made.

To be reviewed: Every two years

Reviewed by:	S Reeve	Date: 15.10.24
Signature:	P Brooksbank	Date: 15.10.24
Chair/Vice of Governors Signature:	N Garvey	Date: 14.11.24

At St Mary & St Paul's CE Primary school we recognise the vital role which well organised homework can play by raising standards of achievement by pupils of all ages.

By the term 'homework', this policy refers to anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to requests or guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are supporting their learning in a very valuable way.

Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. The government makes clear its commitment to homework, it regards it as an essential part of good education. We believe that homework can enable the children to become lifelong, independent learners, not simply regarding learning as something which goes on at school.

We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed, we see homework as an important example of partnership and cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Whilst homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in family and leisure activities and participating in various clubs and organisations which play an important part in children's lives. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school. During holiday periods we would encourage children to continue reading and we will not set any other homework. The only exception to this is for Year 6 in the run-up to SATs, particularly at Easter.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of our homework policy are:

- to ensure a consistent approach to the use of homework across the school;
- to inform parents and carers about our approach to homework and to promote partnership and co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to help to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;

- to help pupils develop the skills of independent learners;
- to help children to understand that the world of learning extends beyond the school, and to make links between their experiences in school and those gained outside school;
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons; to help children develop good work habits for the future

The purpose of homework

- to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents.
- to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding.
- exploiting resources for learning of all kinds at home.
- extend school learning, e.g., through additional reading.
- encouraging the pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

Homework content across the school

Developing a partnership with parents and involving them actively in children's learning is the key purpose. Short activities of different kinds – learning spellings, number facts and of course reading together. These provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult and to practise key skills in a supportive environment.

As children get older, the skill of independent learning becomes increasingly the aim of homework activities although the partnership between parents and the school is also still vital. Regular reading to and with carers is vital. Children have weekly spellings to learn with the aim of applying them to their written work in school. Children are expected to know their multiplication tables to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. See Appendix A for recommended homework tasks and timings.

We recognise that some parents may want a lesser or a greater amount of homework than we give. For parents who want more homework, each class teacher (Reception to Y6) will provide a half-termly list of Home Learning Project Ideas for extending the children's learning but also to inspire them to learn more. We recommend that children complete at least one task per half term (they can do more if they wish!). Children and parents are free to choose from the selection of project ideas. There will be a range of purposeful learning activities for you and your child to choose from, some are designed for children to complete independently whereas some may need additional support from an adult and may take a bit longer. We encourage all parents to take this opportunity to learn with their child. Maybe set a couple of days aside each half term to really focus on this project and support your child in demonstrating all that they know!

See Appendix B for a Home Learning Project example. Over the year, each class will receive a geography, history, science, art, RE and national / international current event focus e.g. The Olympics.

There are also many helpful websites and apps available with interactive activities for families to access independently (see Appendix C or our website).

The planning of homework.

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable for pupils on a day-to-day basis. We have found that a familiar routine is helpful for children, teachers and parents.

The role of the teacher

The class teacher must remember to:

- set spellings for the week
- monitor children's use of Numbots / TTRockstars
- provide each child with an appropriate text for home reading
- provide a Home Learning Menu each half-term

The role of parents.

We encourage parents to:

- provide a reasonably peaceful and suitable place in which children can do their homework. This could be alone, or for younger children in partnership with an adult.
- make it clear to their children that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework.

Homework timetable

Please note that the timings below are recommended over 5 weekdays, but families may choose to complete homework at weekends to fit in with their after-school activities.



We believe that reading should be at the heart of homework. Ideally, all children should read every night, either with an adult or, as they progress, on their own. The expectation is that children should read at least 5 times a week.

Year Group	Suggested Time	Focus
Reception	10mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Numbots practice Home Learning Project (optional)
Year 1	15mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Phonics practice Numbots practice Regular spelling practice Home Learning Project (optional)
Year 2	15mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Regular spelling practice Numbots practice (Term 1 & 2) TTRS (Term 3) Home Learning Project (optional)
Year 3	20mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Regular spelling practice TTRS (In short bursts) Home Learning Project (optional)
Year 4	20mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Regular spelling practice TTRS (In short bursts) Home Learning Project (optional)
Year 5	25mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Regular spelling practice TTRS (In short bursts) Home Learning Project (optional)
Year 6	30mins/day	Daily reading (5 x per week) Regular spelling practice TTRS (In short bursts) SATs preparation Home Learning Project (optional)
SS2	Daily reading (5 x per week), Regular spelling practice, Numbots or TTRS and optional project as appropriate for the child's age.	

Appendix B - example

Year 6 Home Project Ideas – Autumn 2

Choose one of these ideas to focus on this half-term!

<h1>World War II</h1>	
<h2>Research Ready!</h2> <p>Carry out research into an area of your choosing and create a poster about any aspect of WWII e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● vehicles used in WWII● weapons used in WWII● key people in WWII● key battles in WWII	<h2>Talk time!</h2> <p>Talk to someone about WWII. Maybe you have an elderly relative who can tell you about their childhood during the war.</p> <p>Imagine you are Winston Churchill. Prepare a speech to encourage your soldiers to continue in their fight. Read the speech to your family.</p> <p>Have a debate with your family – Should we bring back military conscription?</p>
<h2>Venue Visit!</h2> <p>You could visit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Western Approaches HQ, Liverpool● Battle of the Atlantic, Maritime Museum● Liverpool & The Blitz, Museum of Liverpool● The Imperial War Museum North, Manchester <p>Try taking a note pad so you can jot down interesting things you have found out!</p>	<h2>Creative Corner!</h2> <p>You could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Paint a war time related picture.● Make something for Remembrance Day.● Make a model of a WWII air raid shelter. 

Appendix C

Useful Homework websites

Maths

Math Playground - This site has loads of Maths games which help to practise a range of skills.

<http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>

Maths is fun - Lots of puzzles, logic problems and games to help your child's mental maths.

<https://www.mathsisfun.com/>

Sheppard Software - Loads of Maths games on a range of Mathematical concepts.

<https://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math.htm>

At www.timestables.co.uk your child can easily practise all of their tables. The arithmetic problems are clear and simple, just select one of the times tables you wish to practise and show what you can do on the speed test, multiplication tables check or print out great worksheets.

White Rose 1 minute maths app – Offers KS1 children engaging and easily accessible practice in basic number.



English

Oxford Owl - An award-winning free website with 250 FREE tablet-friendly eBooks and activities to help you support children's learning. Now it is even better, with dedicated areas for school and for home.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Pobble - A website that provides a range of visual images, alongside a variety of comprehension and literacy activities.

www.pobble365.com/

Spellzone - A range of activities and games to practise a range of spelling rules and patterns.

<http://www.spellzone.com/games/index.cfm?wordlist=2255>

Rollama – Fun games for grammar

<https://rollama.com/>

English & Maths

IXL – Maths and English practice for Reception to Y6 (no subscription needed)

https://uk.ixl.com/promo?partner=google&campaign=1187&adGroup=Key+Stage+2&gclid=CPPa8teS_8kCFQbnwgodgOIB6A

Whole curriculum

BBC Bitesize – supports children in the Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Bitesize is the BBC's free online study support resource for school-age children in the United Kingdom.

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary

BBC Supermovers - Filled with fun curriculum linked resources to get your child moving while they learn. The website offers easy-to-follow active learning videos across a wide range of subjects!

www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers

Top Marks - Helps you save time finding excellent online educational resources – and you can search by subject and age group.

www.topmarks.co.uk

Education Quizzes – A site with both Maths and English based quizzes which are marked as you go along.

<http://www.educationquizzes.com/ks2/maths/>

Crickweb - 255 free educational, interactive teaching resources and activities for Primary Schools. 84 free to use fun children's games/activities for children aged 4 - 11. 165 plus links to free interactive teaching activities, educational games, image and software resources.

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/>

Primary Homework Help – Hundreds of pages of information on a wide range of subjects – useful for researching.

<https://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

Subscription sites

Phonics play - Games and resources to support the learning of phonics.

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

IXL – Maths and English practice for Reception to Y6

https://uk.ixl.com/promo?partner=google&campaign=1187&adGroup=Key+Stage+2&gclid=CPPa8teS_8kCFQbnwgodgOIB6A

ReadingEggs & Mathseeds – Fun games and activities for Reading and Maths

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/>

KS2 SATS practice

Many of the sites listed above will have specific sections for Y6 too.

IC Teacher - A site with a range of information and questions – great for revision purposes!

http://www.icteachers.co.uk/children/children_sats.htm

CGP books - Free KS2 SATS Online 10-minute tests

[Free KS2 SATS Online 10-Minute Tests | CGP Books](#)