

# ST MARY'S CE (A) FIRST SCHOOL POLICY DOCUMENT FOR HOMEWORK

## Philosophy

All children have a right to an education that offers equal opportunity and an inclusive curriculum in a community which develops sensitivity to differences. While we acknowledge the important role of play and free time in children's growth and development, we also believe that homework plays a positive role in raising children's achievement. Each child is encouraged and supported to achieve spiritually, socially and academically, within the Christian church school ethos of love and respect for all.

## Aims

We aim to:

- Provide the highest quality of teaching and learning for our school community.
- Develop, encourage, support and challenge each child to achieve their potential.

Through carefully planned homework we aim to:

- Help children develop the skills of being an independent learner and raise achievement.
- Consolidate, reinforce and extend learning and to provide opportunities for children to practise skills taught and developed in school.
- Promote a positive partnership between home and school in supporting children's learning.
- Help inform parents about learning in school and provide an opportunity for parents to become involved in their child's learning.
- Develop a valuable life skill and good work habit for the future - in middle, high school, further, higher education and employment.

## Guidelines

Homework activities will be related to current learning in the classroom. Activities may take the form of:

- Reading - sharing a story and/or listening you children read.
- Games & Activities - to consolidate, reinforce and extend English and Maths skills.
- Finding out - looking in books or on the internet to research topics being learning in school.
- Problem solving - finding different ways to tackle a problem.
- Spellings - practising a set of spellings from the spelling booklet.
- Mental Maths KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts) - practising the mental skills and key knowledge which underpin much of the maths work in school - number facts, bonds, times tables and sets of calculations.
- Time will be provided in school for those children unable to complete reading, spelling and maths homework at home, so those children will not be disadvantages in any way.
- Completed homework tasks will be rewarded with Dojo points.
- Homework will be marked and returned to parents/carers, so progress can be monitored.

Children with additional needs (SEND) - Homework activities will be appropriate to each children and their individual needs, so all children can contribute in a positive way.

## Monitoring

Staff to monitor own use of policy within the classroom.

Work trawls and accompanying feedback will be used to monitor homework.

Policy formulated by J Moulton - June 2019

Reviewed by staff and governors June 2021, 2022

**Reviewed March 2024**

To be reviewed March 2026

- Give your child confidence through praise and encouragement - confidence is vital to learning. Specific praise which focuses on a particular piece of work - comments like 'I like the way you have.....' Is much more effective than 'you're clever'.
- Read to, and with, your child as much as possible.
- Encourage your child to observe and talk about what they see, hear, feel, think etc.
- If your child likes to watch television, watch it together and talk about what has been watched - children enjoy sharing their experiences.
- Try to provide your child with a quiet place to do their homework, this shows that parents and children value and respect the homework activities.
- Try to take an interest in your child's homework activity, supporting their learning whilst encouraging independence where appropriate. Encourage your child to talk about their homework.
- If appropriate, try to attend parent workshops or family learning opportunities in school.
- Practise spellings and mental calculations for a short time each day.
- Look on the school website and in the half-termly homework leaflet for home learning opportunities.