

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 or listening to 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 learned in school.
- Problem solving - finding different ways to tackle a problem.
- Spellings - practising a set of spellings from the spelling booklet.
- KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts) - practicing the mental skills and key knowledge that underpin much of the maths work in schools - number facts, bonds, times tables.
- Homework activities will be appropriate to each child 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.

Review every three years.

Agreed by all staff June 2019

Reviewed March 2022

Review March 2024

Appendix

Guidance for parents - ways to help your child learn

- 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.