St. John the Baptist R.C. Primary

Homework Policy

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

"Love one another"

St John the Baptist RC Primary School is a place of
learning in which each individual is encouraged to fulfil their own unique potential.
We try always to remember that everyone is special and should be treated with respect.
Our Catholic faith touches every part of our school life and we try to be a community which has Jesus at the heart of all we do.

POLICY INTRODUCTION

This policy outlines the teaching, organisation and management of homework at St John the Baptist RCP School. As a school we believe that homework is an important factor in maintaining high standards and developing independent lifelong learning skills for our children.

The policy has been drawn up as result of staff discussion and has the full agreement of the Governing Body. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all the teaching and learning support staff.

Approved by:	Governors	**Date:** March 2023 (pending)
Last reviewed on:	9th February 2023	
Next review due by:	9th February 2024	

Introduction

Homework can play an important role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, homework should not consume a child's free time, hinder their growth and development or prevent them from taking part in the enrichment activities and out of school clubs. Homework should help each child to learn, repeat and practice newly learned skills and add confidence by securing knowledge.

Aims and Objectives

- To establish a consistency of approach to homework throughout the school
- To use homework as a tool which continues to raise standards of attainment

- To provide Parents / Carers with the opportunity to work in partnership with school to support their child's learning
- To encourage Parents / Carers to share and enjoy learning experiences with their child.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge in core Maths, English and Phonics.
- To encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare KS2 pupils for transfer to High School.

Planning and Organisation

School homework will be given on a regular basis with some tasks being undertaken daily or weekly. We ask that Parents / Carers aid and motivate but do not do homework for their children. Most homework will involve revisiting or consolidating knowledge.

The emphasis is on how homework helps the child to learn, rather than on whether it takes a certain amount of time. For example, some children will work quicker than others and get more done in less time. The rough guidelines for primary school children are:

- EYFS: Encouraging enjoyment of Reading and rhymes
- Years 1 & 2: 1 hour per week
- Years 3 & 4: 1.5 hours per week
- Years 5 & 6: 30 minutes per day

A child shouldn't be expected to spend much longer on homework than the guide times.
It doesn't matter if activities don't take as long as the guide times as long as they are useful.
Homework is organized carefully at St Johns so that children aren't asked to do too much on any one day.

Homework Activities

Year Group	Reading	Spelling / Phonics	Maths	English
Reception	Daily 10 mins	Sent on Tuesday and return on Friday Weekly practice of that week's ELS letter or sounds or patterns (10mins)		Daily reading and ELS phonics focus in Reception
Y1 & Y2	Daily 10 mins	Sent on Friday to be returned the following Friday. Weekly practice of that week's sound or pattern (10mins) Y1 – ELS Phonics Y2 – Spellings (tested on Friday)	Sent on Friday to be returned the following Friday. Weekly maths task	Sent on Friday to be returned the following Friday. Year 2 English task weekly

Y3 & Y4	Daily 10mins	Sent on a Friday to be returned the following Friday. 10 mins	Sent on a Friday to be returned 10 mins Maths Task Weekly 5 mins Times Tables Daily (tested on Friday)	Sent on Friday to be returned the following Friday. English Task Weekly
Y5 & Y6	Daily 10mins	Daily 10 mins	Times Tables Daily 10 mins Maths Task Weekly Sent Friday Return Friday	English Task Weekly Sent Friday Return Friday

Children in Year 6 will receive additional homework leading up the National tests in May.

Times table expectations

The children need to learn their tables thoroughly in order to support and develop their development in Mathematics. The expectation is that by the end of Year 4 the children know all their tables up to 12 x 12. In June, Year 4 children will be assessed using the government Multiplication check (MTC) this will take place in school. They should be able to rapidly recall these table facts as well as the division facts.

The Head Teacher and Governing Body will

- Monitor the implementation of this policy
- Ensure the policy is consistently followed by all
- Review policy and procedure regularly

Class Teachers will:

- Advise Parents / Carers of year group homework expectations and routines at the Reception Welcome Meeting held in class for Parents / Carers at the beginning of each academic year and via each class page on the school website.
- Plan homework carefully to support the current learning in the classroom
- Plan homework activities that engage all learners and provide a sufficient level of challenge as appropriate
- Ensure that homework activities are aligned with individualised learning styles and abilities
- Value children's homework and show recognition for the work carried out
- Keep to agreed weekly homework routines

- Inform Parents / Carers if children are not completing set work
- Notify SLT and/ or Headteacher if a child is regularly not completing homework after initially talking to Parents / Carers.

Pupils will:

- Make sure they understand the homework activity before leaving school
- Complete their homework to the best of their ability
- Return homework to school on time
- Maintain standards of presentation expected in class

Parents / Carers

Children are more likely to get more out of an activity if their Parents / Carers get involved and support them with it. It is important to avoid taking over too much in order to ensure the work remains a reflection of the child's ability. As children get older, it is particularly important for the child to become more independent in their learning.

We ask Parents / Carers to:

- develop a positive and productive approach to homework
- create a designated space for homework tasks which is ideally placed on a table away from distraction such as television
- ensure there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- read with them, discuss with them and involve them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- communicate with teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- discuss homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and link it to previous experiences
- take care of homework and school books within the home so that they are returned to school in an undamaged state

- **ensure homework tasks are completed on time and returned to school**

Feedback on Homework

Schools are expected to make sure children are given feedback on their homework. It should be given in a way that lets the child know:

- how well they have done
- how they could do better

This may not always happen through written comments from the teacher. Sometimes work will be discussed in class and guided marked within a whole class lesson or teachers may give written comments on just one or two aspects of a piece of work. If Parents / Carers are

concerned about the feedback given to their child they should discuss this with the class teacher.

Homework Support and Homework Club for KS2

Homework support club is provided three times a week at lunchtime. Any child who wants help with homework can attend this club.

Tuesday and Thursday are optional and on Friday children who have not brought their homework will be asked to attend homework club.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to Government of LA initiatives/incidents.