



Homework Policy

Holy Trinity and S. Silas Primary School Homework Policy

Our Mission Statement

Holy Trinity and S. Silas School was founded by the Church in 1847 to serve the community and to provide an education for every child in the area.

We offer all our children an education of the highest quality taught through the arts and lived through the principles and practice of the Christian faith. We provide a place where all children and adults know their contribution is valued and where they can develop their own faith in God and in one another.

We aim to help every child develop to their full potential, to achieve highly, succeed, and grow in confidence and abilities. Our inspiring curriculum provides all the skills every child will need for life, it develops their self-confidence, awakens their imagination and encourages them to think independently.

We value the diversity of backgrounds and cultures which enrich our life and help our school become the unique place it is. The life of our school is integral to that of the Parish: we both contribute to our local community and benefit from it in our achievements.

It is with this unity that we fulfil our school motto

‘Fortis in Fide’



‘Strong in the Faith’

Rationale

Our school policy on homework is based on our ethos that the learning process does not begin and end at school. Children are constantly learning from a variety of adults and experiences. We also believe that children benefit most from 'little but often' reinforcement of what they are learning at school and also hope that homework excites them further!

The role of parents

The part parents play in the completion of homework is vital for educational success. Parents should encourage children to complete tasks set by the class teacher and provide help if necessary.

Parents should also ensure that their children spend some time reading EVERY day. With the younger children this should be a shared activity where parents talk about the story and encourage independent reading.

Older and more fluent readers should be encouraged to read independently but time should be spent discussing the types of books being read.

We believe that children's academic progress will be enhanced if parents spend time discussing, listening and sharing activities with them on a regular basis.

The role of the teacher

Teachers will set homework each week according to the timetable. The type of homework and amount is set out for each individual class. Work will be regularly monitored by the teacher, and feedback provided where necessary.

Teachers will set homework according to the timetable but will also expect children to complete additional tasks on some occasions. This may be with regard to research for a project or the completion of unfinished work. This is not included on the timetable as it will not be set on a regular basis. When it is set, the teacher will expect the child to complete and return the task.

The role of the children

Children will be expected to take responsibility for their homework from an early age. They will be expected to remember their reading folder every day if necessary. If work is set they will be expected to complete the task. If a child fails to complete work on a regular basis, a letter will be sent to parents reminding them of their responsibility and ensuring their children complete tasks set.

Marking

Children's homework is marked on a graded 'star' system which takes into account the effort the child has put into their homework. Children's homework receives a bronze, silver or gold star.

Example Homework Timetable*

Class	Day homework given out	Focus/subject	Return day
Reception	Monday	Phonics Collecting things Maths	Monday
Year 1	Monday	Spelling/handwriting Maths Topic project	Monday
Year 2	Monday	Spelling Grammar Maths/times tables Topic project	Monday
Year 3	Monday	Maths/times tables Spelling	Wednesday
	Friday	English grammar Topic project	Monday
Year 4	Monday	Maths/times tables spellings	Wednesday
	Friday	English grammar Topic project	Monday
Year 5	Monday	Maths/times tables Spellings/vocabulary	Wednesday
	Friday	English grammar Topic project	Monday
Year 6	Monday	Maths/Vocabulary	Wednesday
	Friday	English grammar Topic project	Monday

*It is at the discretion of the class teacher, with permission from the head teacher, to change the days homework is given out/due in if it better suits the class timetable/requirements.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2*

Homework will be given out on a Monday and due in the following week. Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will also receive spellings on a Monday to practise at home during the week. These spellings will tie in to what they are learning in class that week. There will then be a small spelling test the following Monday (the same day homework is due in).

Year 3 -Year 6*

In order to make homework manageable and purposeful children will receive 2 small pieces of homework a week. On Monday they will receive some maths homework which will be due back on the Wednesday of that week. On Friday they will receive some English and topic related homework which will be due back on the Monday after the weekend. In addition they will receive spellings on a weekly basis to practise at home during the week. These spellings will tie in to what they are learning in class that week. There will then be a small spelling test the following

week. As part of preparation for transition to secondary school Year 6 will receive additional homework from the spring term onwards.

Maths Homework

The maths work set for homework will always be linked to either what the class is focussing on or reinforcing a concept previously taught. It is essential that children practise the times tables at home by Year 4 children are expected to know and quickly recall their tables up to 12 x 12.

Reading Expectations

All children are expected to read **every** day.

Reception - Year 4

Parents are expected to read with younger children and discuss the story.

If children are confident readers, adults are still expected to discuss the books their child reads. Even fluent readers sometimes like sharing a book with an adult. Parents should comment in their child's PACT reading record at least three times a week.

Year 5 - Year 6

Adults are expected to discuss the books their child reads. Even fluent readers sometimes like sharing what they have read with an adult. Parents should comment in their child's PACT reading record at least once a week. It is important for children to develop critical thinking and analysis which can be achieved through discussions around texts.

If a parent is having difficulty motivating their child to read they need to speak to the class teacher who will offer them support.

Policy written by Lorraine Dolan and Kirsty McCreadie

Approved by governors: November 2015