



St. John the Baptist
Catholic Primary School

We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord

Homework Policy

Audience: Staff, parents

Frequency of Review: Annual

Postholder Responsible for Review: Headteacher

Recommended Associated Documents:

Marking & Feedback Policy

Approved by the Full Governing Body – January 2023

Review – January 2024

Homework Policy

Rationale:

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School is committed to setting regular homework appropriate to the age, needs and experiences of the child. Homework is important at all stages in a child's education and when used properly, it extends the challenge open to the pupil and ensures that teaching time is used to maximise effect. Homework tasks are set by individual teachers, with the aim of giving children the ability to 'retrieve' previously learnt knowledge/skills from earlier in the week. Homework makes a significant contribution to the development of independent learning. Homework refers to any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. This work will be marked where appropriate by class teachers, support staff, pupils and peers.

Aims of structured Homework:

- To support children's learning opportunities via retrieval practice, reinforcement and revision, particularly in Maths, English, Grammar, RE and Foundation Subjects.
- To provide opportunities for parents, pupils and teachers to work in partnership.
- To share with parents the expectations school has regarding their child.
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences and to exploit resources for learning of all kinds at home.
- To encourage the development of positive attitudes towards learning among children.
- To equip the pupils, with the self-discipline needed to study on their own, and to prepare them for the increased demands of secondary school homework.

Homework Procedures:

In every year group from Reception to Year 6 we provide Retrieval Tasks homework on Microsoft Teams or Class Dojo. This sheet includes spellings and words of the week, along with retrieval of maths, RE and any foundation subjects. There is also a space for the child to say how they have met the virtues for the half term.

Homework will be issued on a Friday to be handed in by the following Thursday in all classes. Reading should be carried out daily, even during the holidays. Children have access to their home reading book, which builds toward their Accelerated Reader score in KS2, as well as their online MyOn account.

How we help pupils to complete homework:

The learning style we promote is a supportive culture enabling pupils to be honest about their difficulties, able to share their mistakes and willing to ask for help. Parents, older siblings, staff and friends may be involved in helping pupils complete their homework. Homework may be adapted for some SEND children.

Pupils should use their personal responsibility, time management skills and support outlined below to be successful in completing homework over the course of one week.

For EY/KS1 Pupils we recommend:

- Pupils must read every day with an adult.
- Pupils complete homework in short daily sessions, 'a little and often'.
- The use of rewards is an important means to motivate pupils.

- Pupils complete homework together with adults or older siblings to encourage a supportive culture whereby pupils understand they always have help at hand.
- Pupils complete homework by talking about it to family members – as learning is enhanced by sharing with others.

For KS2 Pupils we recommend:

- Pupils must read every day
- Pupils complete homework in short daily sessions, ‘a little and often’.
- In the first few days after homework is issued, pupils should complete it on their own to take responsibility for developing their independent learning skills and personal time management skills.
- Pupils should then ask for an adult or older sibling to check/help them complete their homework. This is a very important opportunity to develop a child’s self-checking and review skills. At first the pupil may be quite adult dependant, but this is expected to diminish, as the child grows in confidence, independence and personal responsibility.
- Pupils should bring homework into school, before the due date, if they are still struggling with it and adults at home are unable to assist. In school a member of staff or friend of the pupil will provide support and encouragement to complete the homework and check it.

Communication with parents: Homework procedures provide opportunity for teachers and parents to express specific requirements, concerns or comments regarding the homework of individual pupils. All pupils will have a reading diary that parents are able to write their comments in. These diaries are monitored on a regular basis by staff to assess pupil progress, to reward consistent effort and to ensure parental support is in line with our home-school agreement.

Rewards for completion of homework: Each class teacher keeps a register of completed homework. This helps to monitor pupil attitudes and achievements and helps inform discussions with parents. Pupils who complete homework are rewarded in line with the school’s behaviour regulation policy.

Procedures regarding incomplete homework: Pupils who do not complete their homework or who forget to return their homework by the due date will miss a playtime.

Parents will be notified by their child’s Behaviour, Effort and Attitude to Learning letter each term if their child regularly fails to submit homework.