



POLICY FOR HOMEWORK

Our school is a place of sanctuary, strength and high achievement where all are heard, respected, encouraged and nurtured. Ever outward looking and rooted in the teachings of Jesus; as stewards of God's creation we aim to grow beyond all we can imagine.

In the spirit of our school's vision, this policy is written to ensure St. John's is a place of sanctuary for everyone. The guidance within, provides the knowledge and skills to encourage and promote the highest achievement for all.

This Policy is reviewed every 3 Years by the Headteacher and ratified by a Governor.

Date Agreed:	28 th March 2019
Review Date:	28 th March 2022
Signed by: Headteacher	<i>AJ Smith</i>
Ratified by: Chair of Governors:	<i>A Parker-Krue.</i>

St John's C. E. Primary School

Homework Policy

March 2019

This policy is underwritten by our school Christian Values of:

- Friendship
- Forgiveness
- Trust
- Compassion

AIMS

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help to continue to raise standards of attainment and enjoyment of learning.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for the individual pupil.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in English and Mathematics.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

ROLE OF THE CLASS TEACHER

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance of how they might assist their child.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.
- To set homework that is appropriate for all children including those with additional educational needs.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the taught curriculum.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks using class reward systems.
- To mark homework and give feedback to pupils; TA's may support the teacher in the marking of spellings, time tables and some homework where appropriate. The teacher has the overarching responsibility to monitor, give feedback to pupils and respond to parental comments where required.

ROLE OF PARENT/CARERS

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework, creating a positive environment.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities, including helping children develop time management skills when longer projects are set, and independent skills.
- To value homework and support the school with any homework tasks set.

HOMEWORK TASKS

Weekly homework will be marked and returned home in the children's book bag (KS1), homework book (Lower KS2) or homework folder (Upper KS2) so this can be shared with parents. We encourage parents to discuss any errors with their child and annotate homework where help has been given.

Parents/Carers who have more in depth queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher at the earliest available opportunity.

Class teachers will carefully monitor the return of homework. The parents of children who do not engage with homework will be invited into school to discuss ways of supporting their child. In KS2, detentions will be issued to any child who fails to hand in homework on the set day. However, in exceptional circumstances a note should be sent to the class teacher, explaining why the homework has not been completed.

The table below shows expected homework. Teachers may on occasion, send extra homework if they feel it would be beneficial or homework related to a different area of the curriculum (e.g. topic based research).

Year	Homework Expectations and Approximate Timings
Year R	Ladybird sounds and bee tricky word wallets (5-10 mins) Monster Maths task Give Me 5 Challenge
Year 1	Weekly spellings. Weekly Maths (5-10 mins). Give me 5 challenge reading.
Year 2	Weekly spellings. Weekly English – linked to reading (25 mins including time spent on spellings/vocab). Weekly Maths (25 mins including time spent on tables). Give me 5 challenge reading. Times tables
Year 3	Give me 5 challenge reading. Weekly spellings. Weekly English (30 mins including time spent on spellings/vocab). Weekly Maths (30 mins including time spent on tables/vocab). Times tables practice ongoing.
Year 4	Give me 5 challenge reading. Weekly spellings. Weekly English (40 mins including time spent on spellings/vocab). Weekly Maths (40 mins including time spent on tables/vocab). Weekly times table practice for weekly test.
Year 5	Give me 5 challenge reading. Weekly spellings. Weekly English (50 mins including time spent on spellings/vocab). Weekly Maths (50 mins including time spent on tables/vocab). Weekly times table practice for weekly test.
Year 6	Give me 5 challenge reading. Weekly spellings. Weekly English (1 hour including time spent on spellings/vocab). Weekly Maths (1 hour including time spent on tables/vocab). Weekly times table practice for weekly test.

ROLE OF THE HEADTEACHER AND GOVERNING BODY

- To check compliance of the Policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.
- Inform new parents to the school so that they are aware of the home/school agreement and what it entails.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

This policy is written in line with the requirements of:-

- Children and Families Act 2014
- SEN Code of Practice 2015
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014
- Equality Act 2010

The governors and staff are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have access to the curriculum, and the right to a learning environment, which dispels ignorance prejudice or stereotyping.

Will my child be set homework in the School Holidays?

Homework will not be set during the school holidays as we feel that quality time spent as a family is very important. The only exception will be during the summer holidays where the new class teacher may set one piece of work for the child to bring along in September to be displayed in their new classroom.

In the school holidays, we encourage children to continue reading and keep times tables ticking over (where appropriate) but recording is optional and will not form part of the Give Me 5 Reading Challenge.

Will my child be expected to complete projects at home?

Where projects are set to enrich learning, teachers will give the children adequate time to complete the task and will reduce other homework to compensate for extra time spent. Projects give the children the opportunity to develop their interests and respond creatively to a task. We are happy for adults to support learning in this way.

We value the children's efforts with their homework and appreciate the support that you, as parents, give your children. We expect homework to be completed to a standard that reflects your child's ability and general working level.

How much help should I give my child?

When your child has completed a piece of homework, please feel free to look through it with them. Any errors you notice can be corrected as long as the teacher can see them. For example, you could use a different colour or correct above the original answer. Pick out any spellings which you think your child should be able to spell, but no more than 5 words as this becomes demoralising.

It is very valuable to teachers if you write a brief note on the homework if you feel you have comments about your child has completed the task and their understanding.

We encourage children in Key Stage 2 to self-assess their work as they do in class.

What if my child is a slow worker or does not understand the task set?

Teachers carefully set homework to reinforce school learning and cement understanding.

If your child does not understand the task, please ask them to speak to their class teacher as soon as possible to allow time to clarify the homework before it is due in. Teachers are always happy to explain further and will always allow time for homework to be completed. Details of 'handing in days' will be found on individual class newsletters.

If your child struggles to complete homework in the recommended time, it is perfectly acceptable for your child to stop and for you to write a note letting the teacher know that they worked for the allotted time.

What happens if my child hands in their homework late?

In Key Stage 2 we expect children to become more responsible about handing in their homework. In lower Key Stage 2, they will be given an extra day to hand in homework but after that will receive a detention to complete the work at school. In upper Key Stage 2 homework is expected on time in preparation for the children moving on to secondary school.

If there are circumstances which mean that your child has been unable to complete their homework, please see the class teacher or send a note to explain. However, we expect children, with support, to plan their homework time around their home activities.