

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

'Homework is important at all stages in a child's education, used properly it extends the challenge open to the pupil and ensures that teaching time is used to maximum effect'.

What is Homework?

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

Aims and Objectives

The school believes that the Homework Policy will:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- Ensure needs of individual pupils are taken into account.
- Ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupil.
- Improve the quality of learning experience offered to the pupils.
- Extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision.
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership.
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs.
- At Year 6, to prepare children for secondary transfer.

Homework at St. John's

At St. John's we ensure that homework activities for our children in KS1 and KS2 are in line with DfES guidelines.

Recommended time allocation for homework

Years 1/2	1 hour per week	(Reading, spellings and number work)
Years 3/4	1.5 hours per week	(Literacy/Numeracy/R.E. with occasional assignments in other subjects)
Years 5/6	30 mins. per day	(Regular weekly schedule with emphasis on Literacy/Numeracy/R.E. but also ranging over Curriculum)

NURSERY

Activities to reinforce topic tasks.

- In Summer Term practice writing name and letter and sound activity.
- Books to share go home every day.

- Looking for shapes and colours.
- Rote counting.

- Reinforcement of please and thank you.
- Tidying away toys at home.
- Dressing themselves.

RECEPTION

- Nightly reading and comments shared in home/school book.
- Key words to match / sight read.
- Handwriting/sounds practice.

- From spring term weekly number activity.

- Dressing themselves - buttons, zips
- Putting on socks/shoes

YEAR 1

- Nightly reading and comments shared in home/school book.
- Weekly spellings to practise: Test Friday.
- Literacy/Numeracy/R.E. activities - Friday.

- Learning to tie their laces.

YEAR 2

- Nightly reading and comments stored in home/school book.
- Weekly spellings to learn for test on Friday.
- Weekly task related to Numeracy/Literacy/R.E. topic/focus.

YEAR 3

- Nightly reading and comment stored in home/school book.
- Monday spellings to learn for Friday test.
- Times table practice nightly.

- Written homework on Monday: Literacy/Numeracy/R.E.

YEAR 4

- Nightly reading and comments shared in home/school book.
- Monday spellings - to learn for Friday test.
- Written tasks Monday and Tuesday: Literacy/Numeracy/R.E./topic.
- Weekly times tables to learn for a tables test on Friday.
- Occasional tasks related to class topic's/work.

YEAR 5

- Spellings on Monday for a Monday test.
- Nightly reading and comments shared in home/school book.
- Written homework on Monday: Literacy/Numeracy/R.E.

YEAR 6

- Spelling work given on Tuesday for a Thursday test.
- Nightly reading and comments shared in home/school book.
- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday written homework: Literacy/Numeracy/R.E.
- Tables practice nightly: Test Thursday.

Special Educational Needs

The purposes of homework applies equally to pupils with SEN. Homework is suitably differentiated to give the pupils plenty of opportunity to succeed and is an opportunity for parents to be involved in supporting their child's targets on their IEPs.

The role of staff at St. John's in providing Homework and Giving Feedback

- Staff will ensure that the demands of homework are manageable for pupils and parents/carers on a day today basis.
- Staff will ensure that there are regular patterns to homework, particularly for Literacy and Numeracy.
- Staff will ensure that the children receive appropriate feedback appropriate to their homework.
- Staff will ensure that comments are recorded in home/school reading diaries.
- Staff will support parents/pupil after school with hearing their child read.

The Role of parents and carers in supporting Homework

Parents and carers are encouraged to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do their homework.

- Make it clear to their child that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- Encourage their child and praise them when they have completed homework.
- Ensure that homework including reading books are brought to school daily or when necessary.
- Ensure that they check, sign and date their child's reading diary regularly.

The role of pupils in completing homework

Pupils are expected to:

- Complete their homework activities to the best of their abilities.
- Hand their homework into their teachers by the date due or be suitably prepared for the weekly test.
- Take care of their reading diary, spelling books and homework books and bring them to school when necessary.
- Ensure that they bring their book bag to school every day.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the Homework Policy

It is the responsibility of the SMT to monitor and evaluate the Homework Policy. It is also their responsibility to evaluate activities and resources necessary to ensure that the Policy will be manageable and effective.

Procedures for non-completion of Homework

As stated in the Home School agreement children are expected to complete all homework within the given timescale. At St. John's the children have an increased responsibility to do this from KS1 to KS2. If homework is not completed one of the following sanctions will apply:

- Discussion between teacher and child.
- Discussion between teacher/headteacher and parent and an expectation that the homework will be completed.
- Lunchtime opportunity given to complete outstanding work.
- Outstanding or unacceptable work will be completed during the activity afternoon.

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C. Flanagan

Update : Date Reviewed: Date