



ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework policy

Mission Statement

"I called you by your name, you are mine." Isaiah 43

The mission of our school is to support and further the teachings of Christ and His Church.

We welcome and embrace individuals of all abilities and cultural backgrounds.

We aim to enhance and celebrate their moral, physical, social and emotional development, so that they may reach their full potential in an atmosphere of stability, care and respect.

We believe that education is for all and in partnership with parents, carers, children and the wider Catholic community: we will strive and succeed in a wholly inclusive setting.

This policy was adopted September 2017

The policy is to be reviewed September 2018

Written by: Louise Prestidge and Teaching Staff

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.

- ⊕ The Homework Policy will form part of our overall learning and assessment strategy and will be led by the Headteacher (Louise Prestidge) and Deputy Headteacher (Claire Burns).
- ⊕ Tasks will be carefully planned and structured to support progression in learning and will be taken into account of in curriculum planning each week.
- ⊕ There will be consistent practice across the school setting, managing and marking homework.
- ⊕ There will be a regular programme homework, so that everyone; teachers, children and parents or carers, knows what to expect each week.
- ⊕ Pupils and parents or carers will be given a clear understanding of what they need to do.
- ⊕ Parents and carers will be treated as partners in their children's learning.
- ⊕ There will be high expectations of pupils in completing homework.
- ⊕ Pupils will receive prompt, clear feedback on their work.
- ⊕ The Homework policy will be regularly monitored and evaluated to check it supports pupils' learning in the best possible way.

Aims:

Through this policy we aim to:

- ⊕ Develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers.
- ⊕ Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- ⊕ Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- ⊕ Ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account.
- ⊕ Ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the child.
- ⊕ Improve the quality of learning experience offered to the children.
- ⊕ Extend and support the learning experience through reinforcement and revision.
- ⊕ Provide opportunities for parents/carers and children to work together to enjoy the learning experiences.
- ⊕ Encourage older children to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed on their own and prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

Types and amount of homework:

During the Reception year, homework will be set at the teacher's discretion and will include a range of activities appropriate to the child's stage of development including phonics, learning of high frequency words and reading/sharing a book. Mathletics is

At Key stage 1, children will receive a homework task. In addition other homework includes looking at books together, reading, spellings, and a simple number or literacy exercise or game.

At Key stage 2 - years 3 & 4

Children will receive up to one and half-hours homework over the week. This will be centred on literacy or numeracy (alternate weekends). It will include reading, learning spellings and arithmetic. There may occasionally be assignments on other subjects.

At Key stage 2 - years 5 & 6

Children will receive up to two and half hours homework per week. In addition to literacy and numeracy (set every weekend), including, arithmetic, spellings and daily reading, occasionally children may also be required to complete a piece of cross curricular work such as some research.

The amount of homework given should be monitored carefully so that there is an even balance. Homework should not be "just finishing off" and it should be differentiated where appropriate.

Homework books will be provided for all children. All children will have a home contact book, where they will record their homework. Every week this will be signed by the class teacher and by the parent/carer.

The VLE

We have a Virtual Learning Environment which can be accessed by the children using their log in details from our school website. Homework activities are posted on the VLE during every holiday period. There are also website addresses for the children to access which will support them in their class learning eg maths, spellings, phonics etc.

Mathletics

Every child has an individual Mathletics account log in. This provides access to a variety of activities and challenges. Homework may be assigned on occasion however, children are encouraged to use it regularly at home. Their

achievements are celebrated in school through display and class rewards including 'Mathlete of the Week'.

Special Educational Needs

Homework is related to what has been taught in class, but will also take into consideration individual targets where appropriate. Homework is differentiated to ensure the individual needs of the children are catered for. Class teachers work in collaboration with the SENco (Angela Liggins) and with parents/carers.

Tasks should:

- ⊕ Have a very clear focus
- ⊕ Give plenty of opportunities for children to succeed
- ⊕ Help to develop social as well as other skills where necessary
- ⊕ Be varied - not purely written work
- ⊕ Be manageable

The role of parents and carers in supporting children

Parents are encouraged to provide a suitable place in which their child can complete their homework, either alone or, for younger children, together, with an adult. Parents are invited to attend 'workshops' throughout the year to support them when helping their child with their homework.

Parents should encourage their children and make it clear the value of homework. They should offer praise when homework is completed. (Refer to home/school agreement.) Teachers welcome any feedback from parents on the homework.

The role of the school

The school will be responsible for giving suitable homework which is appropriate to age and ability. The class teacher will be responsible for marking homework set using our agreed marking policy and giving feedback as quickly as possible. This may take the form of class discussion, through tests, through individual comments and through individual marking. It may also be appropriate to allow children time to review homework in small groups.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the Homework Policy

The class teacher will be responsible for monitoring the amount of homework and the standard of work.

The Headteacher and teaching staff will meet once a year to discuss and review the Homework policy.