



St Mary's RC Primary School, Richmond Homework Policy

The School's policy on Homework has developed to encourage children in their learning both independently and as a partnership between home and school. Research has shown that homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at School.

Definition of Homework:

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

Purpose of Homework:

The purpose of homework is to:

- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- Extend the opportunity for learning through parental or carer support e.g. additional reading, practising times tables.
- Make the most of additional resources available at home.
- Encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own and prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

The School's Policy will help develop a consistent approach across the School. Our aims are reflected in the following:

- 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.
- Develop an effective partnership with parents/guardians so that expectations are mutually appreciated.
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to pupils.
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- Support the child in having reinforcement and revision opportunities.
- Prepare Year 6 for Secondary education.

For the success of the Policy it is essential for a Partnership approach between the Parent, Teacher and Child to be developed. Parents need to be informed of when homework is given and what is expected.

By giving this information the Parent and teacher work collaboratively and no misunderstandings should occur.

Examples of building on informed partnership:

- Curriculum letters each half term
- RE curriculum letter each half term.
- Homework set with clear explanations attached.
- SMIRFs/Maths targets are sent home termly.

The DFE recommended time allocation for homework is Y1/2 - 1 hour per week; Y3/4 - 1 and a half hours per week; Y5/6 – 30 minutes a day.

The school will set homework weekly and individual teachers will set up their own routines for delivery and collection of homework. Homework will be marked in line with the school's marking policy.

Reception: Homework activities could include singing nursery rhymes, letter sounds, reading keywords reinforcing letter sounds, sharing library books, counting, rhymes and counting in and around the house. The reading diary provides a regular method of communication between parents/carers and teachers.

Years 1 & 2: 1 Hour per week. Daily reading recorded in reading record book. Spellings or reading words. Nursery rhymes, counting rhymes. Practise games in SMIRFs/Maths targets. Occasionally a mathematics activity e.g. number bonds, tables to learn; simple research e.g. family history.

Years 3 & 4: 1.5 Hours per week. Daily reading, at least 10minutes each day, recorded in homework book/diary. Spellings rules/conventions to be learnt fortnightly, based on Read Write Inc spelling scheme and the National Curriculum or Letters and Sounds. Sentences to be written using the spellings applied from the rule or convention. Tables to learn – weekly and SMIRFs to practice. This may be supplemented with a Science or Topic activity.

Years 5 & 6: 30 Minutes a day. Daily reading, at least 10minutes each day, recorded in homework book/diary. Spellings rules/conventions to be learnt fortnightly, based on Read Write Inc spelling scheme and the National Curriculum or Letters and Sounds. Sentences or paragraph to be written using the spellings applied from the rule or convention. Tables to learn - weekly. Weekly task in English and/or Maths based on SATs work/questions. Practise SMIRFs/Maths targets. There will be an expectation that children in year 5 and 6 will spend longer on homework activities in preparation for secondary school.

There may be times when some children will be asked to complete work begun in class to ensure that they maintain optimum progress. Any child not completing work to the expectation of the teacher may be asked to finish their work at home. When planning homework, teachers will take into consideration the D.F.E. guidance as shown above and include what they are setting within their weekly plans. As a minimum, children should have daily reading, weekly spellings and some Maths activity each week.

Homework Club will be offered as a lunchtime club for children to attend if they have been unable to complete their homework. Teachers may request that pupils attend homework club to finish their homework.