



*"Where young minds grow and young hearts learn to care"*

# ST. ANDREW'S C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HOMEWORK POLICY

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'Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action.' 1 Corinthians 16:14

Live **O**ur **V**alues **E**veryday



## Rationale

Homework is seen as one of the principal ways in which pupil achievement can be raised.

The benefits of doing homework must be instilled at an early age in all pupils, so that independent home learning becomes routine. The aim of this policy document is therefore to:

- Enable pupils to understand that independent learning is vital to achieving success
- Give every pupil the opportunity to fulfil their potential
- Instil in all pupils the importance of life-long learning
- Provide training for children in planning and organising time
- Promote a responsibility for learning within each pupil

For homework to be effective it has to be stimulating and challenging whilst being supported through the quality of the teaching and learning occurring in a classroom.

It is on this basis that this policy should not be seen in isolation but as part of the learning and teaching at St. Andrews. This policy and the Learning and Teaching Policy contribute to raising attainment and the quality of the educational experience we provide to pupils and parents.

## Aims

- To use homework as a tool to help to continue to raise standards of attainment.
- 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 Numeracy and Literacy.
- 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 Parents/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 make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.



## Expectations

All children in KS1 and 2 will have a homework book

Expectations for homework in different school phases	
Foundation stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading</li> <li>• Learning Journey tasks (fortnightly)</li> <li>• Weekly phonics</li> </ul>
KS1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Termly creative topic project</li> <li>• Daily reading</li> <li>• Weekly spelling / grammar learning</li> <li>• Maths - usually Mathletics - at the end of every unit</li> </ul>
LKS2 (Yr 3+4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Termly creative topic project</li> <li>• Daily reading</li> <li>• Weekly Maths (usually Mathletics)</li> <li>• Weekly spelling</li> </ul>
UKS2 (Yr 5+6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Termly creative topic project</li> <li>• Daily reading</li> <li>• Weekly Maths</li> <li>• Weekly spelling</li> </ul>

## Overcoming the barriers

Ways in which we hope to help parents and children achieve these expectations are:

- Inviting parents to a termly 'Creative Topic project' exhibition
- Children owning and having pride in a homework book
- Having a weekly 'homework club' that targets children who have little support at home to access homework
- Celebrating children who regularly do homework
- Making the expectation of homework part of our 'home school agreement'
- Keeping a record of all children's homework participation
- Generic homework letters that teachers can send home to families who don't regularly do homework
- Adopting 'homework buddies' to encourage and critique their homework