

'Shine like stars in the world.'
Philippians 2:15



St Paul's CE Primary School

Homework Policy

Our Vision

Our school is one family, united in love and deeply rooted in our Christian values, where together on life's journey we flourish, striving for excellence in all that we do. Inspired by the transformation of St Paul, and enlightened by the glory of God, we will shine like stars to make the world a better place.

Our Core Values

Love, Forgiveness, Faith, Friendship, Hope and Peace.

ST PAUL'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
HOMEWORK POLICY

1. General

Homework is not compulsory, but should be seen by teachers, pupils and parents as a desirable, optional, additional extension to children's work in school. It is a valuable tool in supporting successful learning.

In the first few years at the school children will only be given a little homework. Tasks will often be quite informal, such as the reading and sharing of books. However, by the time they leave school the children will have been used to a regular homework programme, preparing them for transition to Year 7. The importance of regular homework and the demands made upon the pupils will therefore increase as the children move up through the school, especially during their years in Key Stage 2.

Homework is an extension of the partnership between home and school. Parents should be aware of the homework programme for the class, the aims and objectives of that programme and the teacher's expectations of the class as a whole and of their child in particular. Through the homework diary, or other form of communication, they should be able to see what homework has been set, how much time should be spent on it and when it should be completed and handed in.

Parents should see their role as being to encourage and support children in doing their homework, eg ensure that the appropriate time is spent on the work set and that suitable conditions are available in the home, not to do the work for them. As a school we encourage parents to use the opportunity to be involved directly in their child's learning by explaining, encouraging, helping with research or checking the work is a good standard.

2 Aims

At St Paul's we use homework to: -

- reinforce classroom learning
- contribute to children's progress in school
- raise achievement
- provide opportunities to practise skills with parent/carer
- encourage learning as a life-long process
- promote habits of enquiry and investigation
- support development of independent learning skills
- promote an effective home/school partnership
- promote the importance of educational sustainable development.

Before setting homework, teachers consider what it is they hope to achieve and how the work set will relate to the educational needs of the individual child. In setting homework, careful thought is given to differentiation amongst the children in the class either by task set, quantity of work expected or level of intended outcome.

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3. Programme

Key Stage 1

The main focus of home support with children's learning in Key Stage 1 is the reading programme. Children have a two-way book which provides for a dialogue between parents and teachers on children's progress and achievements. The two-way book and the child's reading book are sent home every night in a plastic wallet or book bag and parents are encouraged to hear their child read regularly.

In addition, children in Reception and Year 1/2 will be given sounds to recognise and learn as part of the phonics programme. Children in Year 1 and Year 2 may be given occasional spelling lists and number bonds. In Year 2 children will be given spellings from time to time and will be expected to undertake homework tasks on an occasional basis.

Throughout Key Stage 1 children may be asked to bring things from home, or prepare things there for special projects or events happening in school, or they may be asked to take home pictures, models or other work for completion. Homework for children in Years 1 and 2 will not normally exceed one hour each week.

Key Stage 2

The home/school reading programme is also a central feature of the homework schedule at Key Stage 2 since it is continued and developed from Key Stage 1 up to and including Year 6.

Generally homework will be set on a regular basis, allowing children some flexibility on when the work is completed, including the opportunity to work at the weekend.

The approximate amount of time per week devoted to homework which will be expected of children in Key Stage 2 will increase as children move up through the school as follows:

Year 3	1 - 1½ hours
Year 4	1½ - 2 hours
Year 5	2 - 2½ hours
Year 6	2½ - 3 hours

Children in Key Stage 2 will normally have a homework book/diary in which their homework for the week will be clearly set out. Their work is likely to include weekly spellings, number bonds/times tables and, at different times, a variety of tasks related to their work in school in English, mathematics, science, RE or the foundation subjects. As with Key Stage 1, there will also from time to time be expectations relating to preparation for major school events, follow-up tasks to work done in school and items to be completed.

Any homework set should be clearly defined in the homework book/diary which parents will be expected to sign once the work has been completed. Homework books/diaries are checked by teachers on a weekly basis and any missing signatures queried and followed up.

This policy is reviewed annually.

Reviewed by Clare Cresswell	Spring Term 2023
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Next Revision (Please highlight as appropriate)	Annual	Bi-annual	Tri- annual
To be reviewed	Spring Term 2024		