



St Nicholas Church of England Primary School

'OUR CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER'

Policy Title:	Home Learning
LT Responsibility:	Head Teacher
Review Body:	Head Teacher and SMT
Date:	January 2019
Review:	January 2021

Context

At St Nicholas CE Primary School we believe that children are most successful when there is a strong partnership between the parents and teachers as exemplified in our school mission statement: 'Our Christian Community Growing and Learning Together'.

As part of this partnership, we consider homework to be an extension of children's school-based learning. We hope our children will develop a lifelong love of learning. This is greatly encouraged when learning activities occur within the home and with the support of the family.

Parents have a fundamental role in their child's development through play, reading, and providing creative opportunities such as role-play, cooking, art, and construction. In addition some activities communicated by the child's teacher will provide a most useful link between home and school based learning.

The principle aims of Homework are:

- To create a regular line of communication between the child's teacher and parents.
- To communicate to parents what their child is currently learning and how they are learning.
- To provide an opportunity for parents to become involved directly, and currently, in their child's school based learning.
- To provide children with the opportunity to consolidate and develop their learning.
- The support of parents and carers is seen as essential with helping their children at home.
- Increasingly the use of online tasks will be incorporated into homework tasks.
- Homework is to be promoted by the school and carers, as a positive experience for the children.

The principles and good practice underpinning the organisation of homework:

- Homework is seen as an integral part of the curriculum and planned and prepared alongside class programmes of learning.
- Homework will be clearly linked to class work and the National Curriculum.
- The standard and duration of homework will be progressive throughout the school and appropriate for the age range.
- Homework will be accessible to all abilities; therefore differentiated and appropriate to the needs of individuals, however tasks will be designed to challenge and may require some support from carers.
- Teachers will set homework at regular times, which will be made clear to parents and children.
- Children will be given clear instructions as to how to tackle the homework.
- Reading is considered an important and integral aspect of homework and children are given a special reading record book, or reading journal, to encourage home reading and track progress.

The principles underpinning the collection and marking of homework:

- It is important to convey the message that tasks completed at home are valued; therefore homework completed well is acknowledged and praised. Some form of feedback is given so that children know how well they have done and what they could do better.
- Acknowledgement will be evident on all pieces of returned homework, for example team points; written comment or online feedback; stamp; sticker; etc.
- Marked spelling tests are sent home regularly in the front of their spelling books, so that parents can collect an ongoing record. (KS1)
- Rewards for children who have excelled in some way with their homework will be made.
- Over the last decade the demands on a teacher's time have shifted, therefore the emphasis on time committed to homework needs to be focussed on the planning of homework tasks rather than the marking. Acknowledging homework needs to be carried out in a balanced and efficient way. This may include class discussion, a comment on their work on online tasks, marking by pupils and marking by teaching assistants.

The Organisation of Homework

Teachers will communicate the precise arrangements for the distribution of homework to parents in a variety of ways including using Parentmail and Class Parent Handbooks.

It is the expectation that children will complete the homework tasks set by teachers. When this does not happen the child's parents should be informed.

Foundation stage (Reception Class)

Reading books are provided for each child to read at home with parents once the child is ready for this. These books come from a mixture of reading schemes. This is monitored, and books may be changed twice a week. Word cards are sent home to complement the main reading scheme when appropriate. Children are expected to read every night even on days when their books have not been changed in order to build up confidence and fluency.

Words will be sent home from the high frequency list to complement the main reading scheme and to help the children to build up their sight vocabulary.

Word activities and letter or number practice are sent home when appropriate. From time to time, children may be asked to bring in items from home relating to class work.

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

Reading books are provided for each child to read at home with parents. These books come from a mixture of reading schemes. This is monitored, and books are changed twice a week. Words are sent home from the high frequency lists to complement the main reading scheme when appropriate. Children are expected to read every night even on days when their books have not been changed in order to build up confidence and fluency.

Spelling lists will (usually) be sent home on a weekly basis. Numeracy tasks or games, which are related to current class learning will also (usually) be sent on a weekly basis.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Reading books will be provided for daily reading at home. Spelling lists will be sent home to be learned and practised as necessary. Mathematics (including maths games for parents to play with their child) will be set once a week as well as occasional English tasks. Homework to support other areas of the curriculum will be set from time to time. Homework tasks may also include online tasks.

Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6)

Reading books are provided for daily reading. Mathematics, spelling and literacy homework will be set weekly and homework for other curriculum areas may be set as appropriate. Personal research is a key study skill for upper juniors and homework will encourage the use of a range of sources of information. Homework tasks may also include online tasks.

[**where online access at home is problematic, alternative arrangements can be made with the class teacher]

Review:

This homework policy will be regularly reviewed and the views of pupils, parents and staff sought in order to evaluate and improve the practice of home learning.



The academy processes personal data in accordance with the data protection principles embodied in the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The academy complies with the requirements of the GDPR as detailed in the Trust data protection Policy.

All staff are aware of the principles of data protection and will not process personal data unless necessary. The academy safeguards the personal data it collects through the operation of the Trust's data protection policy and processes and the IT policy. In addition, the academy has taken steps to ensure that all its contracts that process data have the GDPR compliant provisions.