



St Margaret's Church of England Primary School

"The roots to grow and the wings to fly"

*They will soar high on wings like eagles.
Isaiah 40:31*

Homework Policy Autumn 2023

Date Approved by LGB: Adoption Date:	
---	--

Introduction

Homework at St. Margaret's CE Primary School is an integral part of our commitment to fostering academic excellence, independent learning, and the overall development of our pupils. We believe that homework can add much to a pupil's development and attainment and therefore is an important part of a child's education.

Aims of the policy

Through implementation of this policy, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- Encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, self-discipline and motivation needed to study on their own and prepare them for the next phase of education
- Make set homework relevant and meaningful for the child linked to work done at school
- Make expectations about homework clear to children, parents and other carers
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school

Why do we value homework?

Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. By valuing home-school learning, pupils are afforded the chance to practise skills, consolidate understanding of work covered in the classroom and to widen their own interests. Moreover, developing good study habits provides an opportunity for pupils to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

Principles

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance.
- As the children progress through the school the amount of homework increases.
- Teachers ensure that the tasks are purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills.
- High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.
- Homework should be linked to previous learning and key skills and must be meaningful and relevant
- Parents will be informed about our aims in setting homework and about the importance this type of work plays in children's education

Homework Activities

Promoting **reading** throughout the school is extremely important and it is anticipated

that every child engages in regular reading. It is expected that children read consistently, and the reading record should be signed by an adult at home to confirm they have read.

This emphasis on reading is particularly vital in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1, where children need to cultivate fluency in reading. This may require repeated readings and memorisation, even if the book appears simple to adults. In these year groups books will only be replaced if there is evidence that they have been read at home.

<u>EYFS / Reception</u>	Reading regularly
<u>Year 1</u>	Reading regularly. From Summer term: spellings
<u>Year 2</u>	Reading regularly and spelling. From Spring term TTRockstars for maths.
<u>Year 3</u>	Reading regularly (including book talk preparation), spelling, TTRockstars for maths.
<u>Year 4</u>	Reading regularly (including book talk preparation), spelling and times tables
<u>Year 5</u>	Reading (including book talk preparation), spelling, arithmetic/times tables. From Summer term - reading comprehension
<u>Year 6</u>	Reading (including book talk preparation) , English task linked to that week’s learning, maths task linked to that week’s learning, spelling and arithmetic. Each week there will also be an optional writing task. From Spring term, there will be opportunities to use revision materials.

Homework tasks are set for each year group in accordance to our homework policy, however from time to time staff may prioritise, or set, additional tasks to have the most influence and impact on the children's learning. These may be competition entries, work to support class learning or extra revision based tasks. We expect children to have a go at these with the same high level of expectation we expect of our work here at school.

Expectations

It is the expectation that all children will complete homework tasks to the best of their ability. If pupils need support to access these activities, then they are invited to attend the weekly lunch-time homework club, run by staff.

Dates for handing homework in are always made explicit by the class teacher.

Pupils are expected to complete homework to the same high standards insisted on in class e.g. neat handwriting, accurate use of full stops and capital letters etc.

How can you help your child with their homework

Below is a list of ways that you as a parent / carer can show your child that you value their homework and the time and effort spent completing it.

The school will also provide clear and regular reminders of their expectation when it comes to homework. As a school we hope that you will find this guidance helpful in supporting your child fully with their homework.

You can show you value your child's homework by:

- providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support
- making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning
- encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set
- signing and dating your child's reading record to show they have read with you
- ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time
- checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework

Additionally, you can support your child's development by:

- visits to libraries, museums etc.
- cooking with them
- taking your child swimming
- playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games
- watching informative TV programmes together
- providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- gardening and growing plants
- using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning

Remember: Homework is about reinforcing, practising and confidence building...

Enthusiasing your child about undertaking homework and modelling the high value of homework to them is of key importance. Make it fun!