

St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Homework Policy 2020-2021

Legal Status:	Non-Statutory
Last Review:	September 2020
Review date:	September 2021
Next Review:	September 2022
Responsible Person:	Governing Body

Mission Statement

"The family of St Mary's strives to grow in God's love and care by learning together and valuing the uniqueness of each person."

Signed by Chair of Governors:

Signed by Headteacher:

At St Mary's, we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership. Homework is important since it reinforces and extends the teaching and learning that occurs during the day. Homework encourages parental involvement in children's learning and helps to develop independence. It is important however to remember and make it known to parents, that when a child has worked for a full day in school he/she may not respond positively to having large amounts of homework. It is beneficial for children, where possible, to have a quiet undisturbed environment in which to complete their homework.

Our aims of providing homework are to:

- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility
Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of children
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Extend and support learning
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepare Year Six children for the secondary phase of education

Below are guidelines of homework expectations for each year group. These may vary from time to time.

Class	Approximate Time	Night Given	Night Returned	Task
Nursery	10 mins	Every night		Reading book – changed once a week
Reception	15 mins	Writing task given each week; a little bit to do each night		
	10 mins	Every night		Reading book – changed once a week
Year 1	15 mins	Monday	Friday	One piece of maths and one writing activity
	10-15 mins	Monday	Friday	Spellings to learn each night – test each Friday
	10 mins	Monday	Friday	Read each night – books changed each Friday
	15 mins	Friday	Monday	Phonics packs
Year 2	15 mins	Every night		Reading book – changed once a week
	15 mins	Monday	Thursday	Maths activity
	15 mins	Monday	Thursday	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar activity
	10 mins	Monday	Thursday	Spellings to learn each night – test each Friday
	10 mins	Monday	Thursday	Times tables practise
Children in Y2 will receive homework every night in the spring term, in preparation for SATs				

Class	Approximate Time	Night Given	Night Returned	Task
Year 3	20 mins	Every night	Thursday	Read each night and get reading record signed. Ask questions to check comprehension. Smaller books read multiple times.
	20 mins	Monday	Thursday	English activity
	20 mins	Monday	Thursday	Maths activity
	15 mins	Monday	Thursday	RE activity – not every week
	20 mins	Monday	Thursday	History/Geography/Science activity – not every week
	20 mins	Monday	Friday	Spellings and write sentences. Times Tables – both tested on Friday
Year 4	20 mins	Monday	Friday	Maths activity
	20 mins	Monday	Friday	English activity
	10 mins	Monday	Friday	Spellings to learn each night and write sentences. Test each Friday
	15 mins	Every night	Monday	Read each night
	10 mins	Every night		Times tables practise Test each Friday
	30 mins	Once a half term		Foundation subject activity (History, Geography etc)
Year 5	10 mins	Monday	Friday	Maths CGP book
	20-30 mins	Monday	Friday	Writing task linked with the spellings of the week
	20-30 mins	Monday	Friday	Reading comprehension activity
	20-30 mins	Tuesday	Friday	Task from SPAG CGP book
	10 mins	Every night		Spellings to learn each night with a test each Friday
	20-30 mins	Every night		Read each night, record in journal and return to school each day. Children can use Bug Club for this.
	1 hour	Once a month		Book review of a book read in that month
	5 mins	As often as possible		Play times tables game using snap cards
Year 6	20 mins	Monday	Wednesday	Maths and English task
	20 mins	Wednesday	Friday	Maths and English task
	10 mins	Monday	Friday	Spellings and times tables practise
	20 mins	Reading		Read each night and record in homework diary; return every day
Children in Y6 will receive more homework in the spring term, in preparation for SATs				

For children to make the most progress, reading, spelling and multiplication/ division facts need to be practised nightly. The times are a guide and an approximate indication of how long a child should spend working on their homework. Children should be encouraged to discuss any problems they are having with their teacher. It is not acceptable for children to struggle excessively, causing upset at home. Parents/carers are encouraged to liaise with the class teacher if any concerns arise.

In some cases, children may require extra homework tasks to reinforce concepts or to provide support in certain areas.

Homework will:

- Increase as children get older
- Be interesting and relevant to the class work
- Be encouraged by a positive approach
- Be marked
- Not necessarily be written work

Following these guidelines will help children to develop independence, realise their full potential and prepare them for the next stage in their education.