ST. ANNE'S C.E.(VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

'Together With God, Making Learning a Life Long Friend'

Approved:	30.9.2026
Review Date:	31.03.2027

We are a Church of England School and our policies are written with a commitment to our Christian Character, which is rooted in the Bible.

Start children off on the way they should go and even when they are old they will not turn from it (Proverbs 22:6)

Aims and Objectives

An organised homework programme helps children to gain the appropriate skills and staying power that will assist them through a successful schooling period. Homework also supports the development of independent learning skills, and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their child's education

Through this policy we aim to:

- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;
- develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school.
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths;
- ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account;
- improve the quality of learning experience offered to pupils;
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading; and
- encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

Benefits of parental support

- Parents provide a significant amount of quality time with their children. Parents and children talk, work and spend time together as homework activities are discussed and completed.

- Parents become more knowledgeable about the school curriculum. Over a period of time, parents gain a clearer insight into what is being taught at school and the requirements of the National Curriculum. This often becomes evident at parents' evenings when many develop the confidence to discuss curricular issues with teachers.

- Parents become more involved in the assessment of children's progress. Parents develop a clearer appreciation of their children's true strengths and weaknesses. This helps to overcome any mismatch of perceptions between home and school.

- Esteem between parents, pupils and teachers is enhanced. The quality of responses generated by some homework activities may enable teachers to gain a different perspective on some pupils and their families, particularly those where previously, communication may have been limited.

- Promoting Family Learning activities. The research and discussion work generated by homework activities can help to create a family learning ethos within the pupils' homes.

- When parents reinforce the work of the school at home, there is a potential for raising standards further.

Types of homework

Early Years

- Reception children will take home a book to read. They should share their book with an adult as many times as possible (ideally every night). Parents should make a record/ comment in their child's reading diary.

- Story sacks are distributed every week for parents and carers to complete at home with their children to enhance their core skills.

- They will take home phonics activities (key rings) every day. These should be practised as often as possible. Children should practise all new sounds and those that they already know so that they are continually building up and reinforcing all of their sounds.

- Weekly Maths activities

- Occasional practical/ creative/ investigational activities.

Years 1 and 2 (approximately 1 hour per week)

- KS1 children will take home books to read. They should share their book with an adult as many times as possible (minimum 5 times). Parents should make a record/ comment in their child's reading diary.

- KS1 children will take home either phonics activities or spelling activities each week. These should be practised as often as possible. Children should practise all new sounds/ spellings and those that they already know so that they are continually building up and reinforcing all of their sounds/ spellings.

- Children are encouraged to access mathematics online learning from home using Purple Mash.

- KS1 children will take home creative/ investigational based activities for English and/ or Maths every week.

Spelling tasks will be given weekly with an activity to complete each night. Children should practise all spellings and when possible those that they already know so that they are continually building up and reinforcing all of their spellings.

Sometimes we ask children to find out or collect things that we then use in lessons, and occasionally we ask children to take home work that they have started in school when we believe that they would benefit from spending further time on it.
Any written activities should be recorded in their 'Homework Folder'

Years 3 and 4 (approximately 2 hours per week)

- Years 3 and 4 children will take home books to read. They should share/ read their book as many times as possible (ideally every night). Parents should make a record/ comment in their child's reading diary.

- Spelling tasks will be given weekly with an activity to complete each night. Children should practise all spellings and when possible those that they already know so that they are continually building up and reinforcing all of their spellings.

- Children are encouraged to access mathematics online learning from home using Purple Mash.

- English and Maths activities will each be given once a week.

- Creative/ investigational based activities will sometimes be sent home. These may be English, Maths or curriculum based.

Sometimes we ask children to find out or collect things that we then use in lessons, and occasionally we ask children to take home work that they have started in school when we believe that they would benefit from spending further time on it.
Any written activities should be recorded in their 'Homework Journal'

Years 5 and 6 (approximately 30 minutes per day)

- Years 5 and 6 children will take home books to read. They should share/ read their book as many times as possible (ideally every night). Parents should make a record/ comment in their child's reading diary.

- Spelling tasks will be given weekly with an activity to complete each night. Children should practise all spellings and when possible those that they already know so that they are continually building up and reinforcing all of their spellings.

- Mental maths activities will be given each week.

- English and Maths activities will each be given each week.

- Creative/ investigational based activities will sometimes be sent home. These may be English, Maths, Science or curriculum based.

Sometimes we ask children to find out or collect things that we then use in lessons, and occasionally we ask children to take home work that they have started in school when we believe that they would benefit from spending further time on it.
Any written activities should be recorded in their 'Homework Journal'

Year 6 pupils will also receive example SATs papers which will help to prepare them for their tests in May.

Equal Opportunities

Homework is planned such that it takes into account the principles of equality and promotes positive attitudes towards diversity. Homework contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils.

Special Educational Needs

Homework is set for all children as a normal part of school life and tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.
Tasks will:

- have a very clear focus and time-guideline;
- give plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed;
- help develop social as well as other skills where necessary;
- be creative and not purely written assignments;
- be manageable for teachers.

Marking

Teachers assess children's progress during class-based activities. Comprehensive marking of work is carried out in exercise books used in school.
Homework will occasionally be marked in depth, and this will follow the school's marking policy.
Homework will usually be acknowledged by staff (inked stampers may be used).

Teachers may change the type and amount of homework given to a child depending on events in school, work not completed in lessons and individual needs.
Parents are encouraged to make comments in the children's homework book and reading record each day.

The role of parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best.
Parents can support their child by:

- providing a good working space at home;
- enabling their child to visit the library regularly;
- discussing the work that their child is doing;
- writing comments in the Homework book or folder.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher.