



Policy owned: SIMCE

Reviewed: Autumn 2021

Next Review: Autumn
2023

'Learn to love and love to learn; in God's love each one will shine'

St. Andrew's Church of England (VC) Primary School

Homework Policy

Rationale:

Our School Vision is led by the example of St Andrew; *"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."* (**Matthew 4: 19**)

Learn to Love- As Jesus showed Andrew how to be the very best of men, so we guide and support our children to become the best that they can be. We teach our children to care and have respect for themselves and others, physically, morally and culturally. Our curriculum is built around the fish symbol to show that the love of God and Jesus is at the very heart of all that we do.

Love to learn- Just as Jesus immediately saw the character and depth of Andrew at that first meeting on the shores of the Sea of Galilee calling him to be his disciple, so we see and encourage the strengths and interests of all our children. We help them become lifelong learners, encouraging and developing their sense of enquiry and aspiration.

In God's love each one will shine- Following Jesus' command; *"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."* (**Matthew 4: 19**) St Andrew brought people to meet, to love and to learn from Jesus. In a similar way we help our children to follow Christian values, to receive the love of God, and to shine that love to others in His grace.

Our vision is realised through this policy by ensuring we have a consistent approach to homework, which is purposeful and supportive for all stakeholders.

Aims and Purposes of homework:

- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents/carers in pursuing the aims of the school.
- To enable children to extend and develop class work by research and follow-up activities.
- To enable children to improve basic skills of English and Maths through repetitive practise.
- To encourage children, as they get older, to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, and to prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

Early Years Foundation Stage (Age 3 - 5)

When the children first start school their homework concentrates on learning sounds, sight words, practising reading and speaking and listening activities. Later in their Reception year they may be asked to complete small tasks to support the learning in the classroom.

Children will be given a reading book linked to the teaching of phonics in class. Children are expected to read at least four times a week at home and for this to be recorded in their Home Reading Records.

Key Stage 1

In Year 1 and 2 the main focus is upon developing the children's reading skills. The children are expected to read at least 4 times a week and should have regular opportunities to talk about the stories and books they are reading with an adult at home. This should be recorded in their Reading Records.

Children will receive homework in the following areas:

- One English or one maths activity (weekly). This can be set using Mathletics in the case of maths, as a PDF on Class Dojo or as a hard copy where appropriate.
- Occasional homework relating to another curriculum area which would replace either the maths or English for that week.
- Spellings - From September in Year Two and from January in Year One.
- Multiplication tables (Year Two should learn 2x, 5x and 10x and Year 1 should learn to count in steps of 2,5 and 10.)

Key Stage 2

Children will receive homework in the following areas:

- Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 will receive one English or one maths activity (weekly) Year 6 will receive one piece of English and one piece of maths.
- Occasional homework relating to another curriculum area which would replace either the maths or English for that week.
- Weekly spellings
- Multiplication tables (Year 3 should learn x3, x4, and x8 and Year 4 should add x7 and x9 so that by the end of year 4 all tables are known)
- 10 - 15 minutes daily reading. This may be parents listening to their children or supervising and ensuring that fluent readers read on their own. This might include a personal reader or a scheme reading book. Children should discuss the text with an adult.

Communication

At St Andrew's School Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils have a Reading Record and homework book or folder. These provide parents with a means of communicating any problems regarding homework to the class teacher.

We ask parents to check that their child is reading and write a comment or initial in the comments box each night. These books should come into school every day.

The role of parents in supporting pupils

It is very important that parents/carers support the school in the matter of homework and give it priority and importance so that children can see that it is part of their learning and a valued activity. Many children have out of school commitments but we rely on parents prioritising school homework and making sure an appropriate time is always available. If you have any concerns regarding your child's homework, please contact the class teacher for advice.

Parents/Carers can help by providing a peaceful suitable place for homework and helping younger children to complete their tasks. Older children may need encouragement to work independently but will also benefit from help and adult supervision. However, the homework tasks will usually be a continuation of class activities or a reinforcement of current topics and should not present a problem to any child. If there are concerns parents should contact the class teacher.

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