



Policy owned: SIMCE

Reviewed: Autumn 2023

Next Review: Autumn
2025

'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

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:

Our policy for homework is based upon the Education Endowment Foundation's Findings to ensure That the homework we set is as effective as possible, in terms of helping your child's progress.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework>

We aim to:

- give guidance and support to our parental body in order for them to best help their child/ren with home learning.
- provide activities, which when regularly completed at home on a regular basis, will help support your child's progress and attainment.
- Have a main focus on
 - Reading
 - Mathematical number facts
 - Spelling skills
- Offer opportunities for children to extend and develop class work through research and follow-up activities

Reading

**A love of reading is the biggest indicator
of future academic success.**

OECD (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)

Reading is such a cornerstone to all learning – that we believe there has to be a major emphasis on this for home learning.

Whilst there are many opportunities, during school time for your child to be taught reading, home reading offers consolidation, practice and enjoyment. We would hope that reading with your child becomes a daily, pleasurable activity for you both.

Support and guidance can be found on either your class web page on the school website follow this link:

<https://standrews323.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/subjects/english-2/>

There are also helpful book recommendations and phonic information on your class web page.

We expect all of our children to read with you at **least four times a week** but would hope that it becomes a daily habit. The reading completed at home should be recorded in their reading records.

Maths

Number facts

Rapid recall of number facts is vital for our children as they progress through primary school and beyond.

Our younger children (Nursery and Reception) should be

- practising counting and recognising numbers in the local environment,
- singing number songs and nursery rhymes
- identifying images of numbers –such as recognising five dots on a die as five, holding up three fingers as three. <https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/homeTimeLadybirds/index.html>

As the children progress from Reception and Year 1 they will begin learning number patterns- counting in 1 and 2s, then building up to 10s and 5s as they become more confident. These can be regularly practised at home.

Number Bonds (up to 10) can also be practised, using fingers, lego or other practical equipment

$3 = 1 + ?$

$5 = 1 + 4, 2 + 3, 4 + ?$

Etc

See

<https://ictgames.com/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

Times tables

We aid regular home practise of these number facts by providing all children from Year 2 with a login for Times Tables Rockstars- an interactive site for the children to practise on. The children can win points for their class, as they practise, and awards are presented in assembly for the highest point scoring class and the highest individuals in class. See <https://trockstars.com/> and your child's home reading record where their login will be posted.

Ideas for how to help your child learn their number facts can be found on the following sites:

<https://whizz.com/blog/fun-ways-to-teach-times-tables/>
<https://www.timestables.co.uk/4-times-table.html>

Card games (snap, rummy) are also a great fun way of involving the children with adding scores, recognising card values.

Board games (snakes and ladders, ludo, monopoly etc – all encourage numeracy skills.

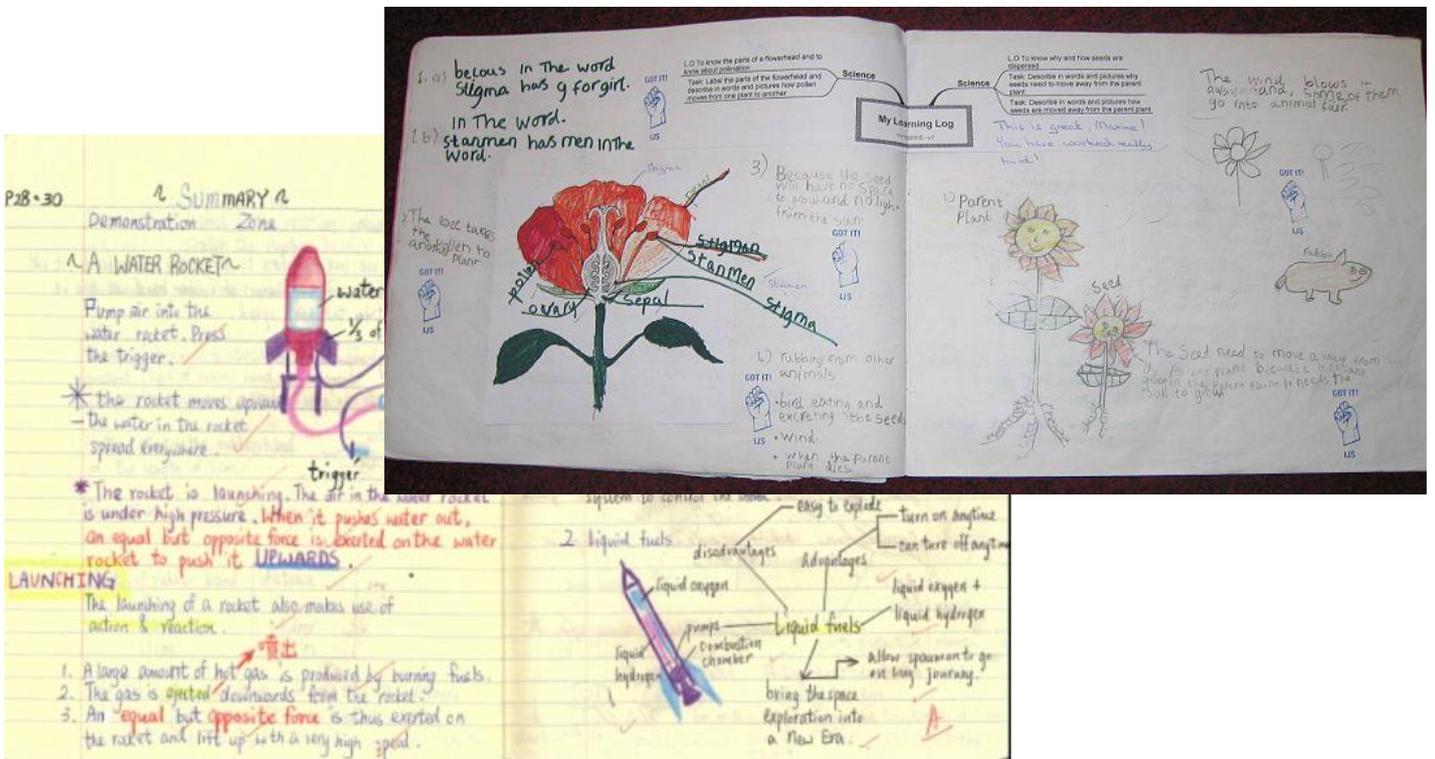
Other Maths learning may be set as part of learning journal activities (see below)

Spellings –It is really important that children learn correct spelling practices and avoid spelling mistakes from a young age, as this will enable them to process, retain and relay information more easily. Additionally, learning more spellings widens a child's vocabulary and exposes them to a richer set of linguistic patterns

Children in KS1 and KS2 will bring home weekly spellings to learn (Year 1 from January of the academic year).

Additional Learning Opportunities - from Key Stage 1

Teachers will also give ideas of optional additional learning ideas that children could do at home connected to learning in topic/foundation subjects. This is not compulsory, but any extra learning that is brought into school will be celebrated and shared.



Summary of homework expectations:

	Reading	Maths	Spelling	Learning Opportunities
Nursery	Share a book with your child. Sing and chant nursery rhymes Read stories and poems to them	Help your child notice numbers in the environment. Count together. Chant counting rhymes.		
Reception	Listen to your child read- at least four times a week and record in their reading diary. Read aloud to your child- help them see the pleasure in fluent reading. Ask questions about read texts.	Support your child to write number digits, especially 0-10	Weekly phonic sounds shared	
Year 1		Support your child to write number digits, especially 0-100 Count to 100 Look for number patterns Count in 2s,5s,10s	Spelling and/or phonic sound to learn	From January (Optional)
Year 2		Practise x and ÷ facts of 2,5,10 times table	Spellings to learn- weekly test	From September (Optional)
Year 3		Practise x and ÷ facts of 3,4 and 8 times table		
Year 4 Year 5		Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12		
Year 6		Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 Y6 SAT revision homework		Y6 SAT revision homework

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.

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