



St John Fisher RC Primary

Homework Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

Love Jesus, love learning,

Inspiring each other to be the best that we can be.

Introduction

This is the school's policy for the provision of homework to pupils.

Homework is defined as *any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers*. At St John Fisher RC Primary School we see work done at home as a valuable part of school work.

The Purpose of Homework

The school regards the purpose of homework as being:

- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents/carers in pursuing the aims of the school and the development of their child;
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths;
- To extend school learning, for example through additional reading;
- To encourage pupils 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.

Current Practice

At St John Fisher RC Primary School teaching staff recognise that pupils who have spent a busy structured day at school need time to relax and unwind at the end of the afternoon. We are also mindful of the need to encourage children to pursue out-of-school activities, e.g. swimming, dance, Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows, music lessons etc.

Homework should be used to effectively reinforce and/or extend what is learned in school. We hope that children will feel a sense of personal satisfaction in a task completed well and that their efforts will be recognised and praised both at home and at school. Homework tasks should be undertaken to the best of their ability.

At the beginning of the academic year, each year group will be informed of what is expected of them with regard to homework.

Parents will be issued with a curriculum overview each term to inform them about the main topics and units of work being covered.

The nature of homework will change as children get older. For children in Key Stage 1, developing a partnership with parents and carers, and involving them actively in children's learning is a key objective.

Short activities of different kinds – reading together, learning spellings and number facts -provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment.

As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent

learning, which they will need to continue lifelong learning and this should increasingly become its main purpose. It is important that children should gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time, which may not be long, to study on their own. By the time children reach Year 6 their homework programme will cover a wide range of tasks and curriculum content, with a regular weekly schedule. This approach will benefit their learning and also ensure that, in relation to homework as much as to other aspects, their transition to Year 7/Secondary school is as smooth as possible.

Homework may include:

- Home Reading: The importance of reading at home cannot be over-emphasised and we hope that children will read for pleasure in their own time. Children are provided with an appropriate school reading book, which can be taken home to read with a parent or other adult person. Parents are always encouraged to comment in their children reading record book. They sign when they have listened to or read to their child.
- TT Rockstars (Timetables)
- Spellings: Spellings will be given to each child to learn to practice in a School Spelling Book. Spellings are given on a Friday and the test will be on the following Friday.
- Work to consolidate learning in Maths, English or Topic work.
- RE: Children may be asked to complete reading on a religious theme, written homework or discussion with their families. In Year 3 children are encouraged to complete tasks with their families related to their Sacramental preparation.

Other activities may include:

Learning Logs (KS2 Autumn: World Faiths, Spring: Science, Summer: History and Geography)

Opportunities to research topics they are studying in class

Handwriting Practice

Preparing questions

Writing tasks

Puzzles/games

Learning songs or scripts for plays

Physical activities

Investigations

Completing classroom activities

Equal Opportunities

Homework will be differentiated appropriately to meet the needs of each child.

We hope parents and carers will be willing and able to give their active support to ensure that work done at home is completed conscientiously, in the best possible conditions and returned in a tidy presentable state. Your help, encouragement and praise will be the key to success.

YEAR	ACTIVITIES
Rec and Year 1	Speed sounds, Reading, spelling & spelling book, TT Rockstars
Year 2	Reading, spelling & spelling book, TT Rockstars
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Reading, spelling & spelling book, TT Rockstars A Learning Journal per term on a given research topic. SATs Practice questions (Year 6 only)

Document history

Date	Amendments
January 2015	Original documents
January 2017	Reviewed
September 2017	Reviewed Rewording of homework for Year 3,4,5 &6.
September 2018	Reviewed Changes to Activities for homework – TT Rockstars and Mathsletics added and written homework removed.
September 2019	Reviewed
September 2020	Reviewed Reference to Learning logs amended to cover subjects.
September 2021	Reviewed Reference to Spellings being set on Microsoft Teams added. Reference to Mathsletics deleted and replaced with IDL. Reference to spelling book added
September 2022	Reviewed Reference to IDL removed.
September 2023	Reviewed SATs Practice questions added for Year 6
September 2024	Reviewed
September 2025	Reviewed
June 2026	Reviewed