



## **St. John's Primary School** **Homework Policy**

### **The Purpose of the policy**

The purpose of this policy is to make explicit what is expected of both teachers and pupils regarding weekly homework activities. All members of staff are expected to be familiar with the policy and to apply it consistently.

### **The need for a homework policy**

Homework is an essential element of children's primary school education. It enables them to further develop their learning at home by extending what they have learned at school. Furthermore, it enables pupils to reinforce the learning that has taken place at school to ensure that they are secure in their learning of key concepts.

Completing homework enables pupils to make good progress in their learning. It also helps to prepare children to become independent learners and manage their own time effectively in preparation for secondary school and life beyond.

### **When is homework set?**

All year groups should set new homework every Wednesday. This should be returned to school by the following Monday, allowing children 5 days to complete the activities which have been set. If homework is not returned by a Monday, pupils will be given an additional opportunity to complete the work in school on Wednesday lunchtimes.

### **What will homework consist of?**

#### **Key Stage One**

In year one children will be set homework as follows;

- Daily reading, to be recorded in the reading record book.
- One piece of maths. This may be computer based maths work such as mathletics, or a paper based piece of work to complete.

- Optional literacy - pupils are not required to complete literacy homework, but may do so if they wish.
- Spellings; pupils will be given new spellings to learn every Wednesday. These will be tested the following Monday.

In year two children will be set homework as follows;

- Daily reading, to be recorded in the reading record book.
- One piece of maths. This may be computer based maths work such as mathematics, or a paper based piece of work to complete.
- Literacy homework books. Children will be asked to complete either 1, 2 or 3 tasks depending on teacher judgement. Activities will consist of either a spelling, grammar or writing based activity. Activities will be completed in the homework books unless otherwise stated by the class teacher.
- Spellings; pupils will be given new spellings to learn every Wednesday. These will be tested the following Monday.

### **Lower Key Stage Two**

In years three and four, children will be set homework as follows;

- Daily reading, to be recorded in the reading record book.
- Spellings; pupils will be given new spellings to learn every Wednesday. These will be tested the following Monday. Children will produce Look, Cover, Write, Check for these spellings.
- One piece of maths per week. This may be computer based maths work such as mathematics, or a paper based piece of work to complete.
- Literacy homework books. Children will be asked to complete either 1, 2 or 3 tasks depending on teacher judgement. Activities will consist of either a spelling, grammar or writing based activity. Activities will be completed in the homework books unless otherwise stated by the class teacher.

### **Upper Key Stage Two:**

In year five, children will be set homework as follows;

- Daily reading, to be recorded in the reading record book.
- Spellings; pupils will be given new spellings to learn every Wednesday. These will be tested the following Monday. Children will produce Look, Cover, Write, Check for these spellings.

- Wednesday. One piece of maths per week. This may be computer based maths work such as mathletics, or a paper based piece of work to complete.
- Literacy homework books. Children will be asked to complete either 1, 2 or 3 tasks depending on teacher judgement. Activities will consist of either a spelling, grammar or writing based activity. Activities will be completed in the homework books unless otherwise stated by the class teacher.

In year six, children will be set homework as follows;

- Daily reading, to be recorded in the reading record book.
- Spellings; pupils will be given new spellings to learn every Wednesday. These will be tested the following Monday. Children will produce Look, Cover, Write, Check for these spellings.
- One piece of maths per week. This may be computer based maths work such as mathletics, or a paper based piece of work to complete.
- A piece of literacy work or learning theme work. Literacy may take the form of grammar, spelling or punctuation work. Learning theme may be a project and can run over several weeks as required.
- On occasions children may be given both literacy and learning theme.

### **Holiday homework:**

At the end of each half term children will be set a piece of homework to complete during the holiday. This piece of work will link with the next topic that children will learn. The homework will be an extended writing project allowing children to research and be inspired by their next topic and start the topic with knowledge and questions to investigate further.

### **Star home learning boards:**

Each classroom will have a display board dedicated to 'home learning.' When children complete a piece of work at home beyond that set by their class teacher this will be displayed and celebrated within their classroom. Exceptional pieces of work will be celebrated in achievement assembly on Fridays.

### **Marking**

Homework should be marked in line with the marking policy, by the teacher. Children should be given adequate feedback regarding how well they have done and where appropriate, what they need to do to improve.

Exceptional effort with homework should be rewarded through use of house points or stickers.

### **Parents and Homework**

Parents are encouraged to guide children with their homework should they need it, however they should encourage the child to work independently to complete the tasks set. If parents have any issues with homework they should raise their concerns with the class teacher initially.

If children persistently fail to hand in their homework, they will be given the opportunity to complete it during lunchtimes.

### **Setting homework**

Teachers have a responsibility to ensure that pupils are set homework which is at an appropriately differentiated level. They should ensure that homework set is in line with work which has been completed at school and so is not an entirely new concept to the child.

### **Timings**

Guidelines for how much time should be spent on homework are as follows:

Key Stage One (Year 1&2)	1 hour per week
Lower Key Stage Two (Year 3&4)	1.5 hours per week
Upper Key Stage Two (Year 5&6)	30 minutes per day

### **Monitoring and evaluating this policy**

This policy will be monitored through further consultation of staff and through the planned monitoring reviews. Children's homework books will be monitored by the Senior Leadership Team, with written and verbal feedback given to individual members of staff.