

# *St Cleopas C of E Primary School*



## *Homework Policy*

### **Mission Statement:**

We are a distinctive, inclusive, Christian school, where everyone is welcomed and valued. We aim to nurture and develop opportunities for lifelong learning through a caring and inclusive ethos. We come together in a friendly, creative community to develop our cultural lives, spirituality and abilities through the core values of Love, Trust, Care, Respect and Joy all given and received in Jesus' name.

### **Biblical reference:**

**"..love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples".**

**John 13:34-35**

### **Aims of The Policy**

- to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents.
- to ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- to ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- to ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- ensure that parents have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupils
- extend and support the child's learning through reinforcement and revision
- provide opportunities for the parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- provide opportunities for parents and pupils to enjoy learning experiences together
- to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- to exploit all resources for learning including those found at home
- to extend school learning
- to encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self - discipline required for individual study
- to prepare children for the demands of secondary school

### **Content of the Homework Provided**

The main focus of homework will be English and Maths. As children move through the school this will continue to be the main focus with the addition of other subjects such as science and the humanities.

Homework will at times, consist of formal exercises to be completed by the child but will also include activities to be completed jointly by the parent and pupil e .g reading, research.

We begin in Key Stage 1 with reading practice. This continues to be essential all the way through the child's primary education. A child when ready, is expected to learn weekly spellings and this then extends to writing tasks.

Maths tasks begin with simple number activities that eventually develop into formal tasks. This will be supplemented by tables and number bond practice and mathematical games.

In addition to regular weekly activities, children may be given additional tasks that are differentiated according to age and ability. These may include research work, reading in preparation for lessons, preparation for an oral presentation and traditional

written assignments. Occasionally children may be asked to finish work at home but this will not form the core part of homework

Teachers will establish a regular pattern for homework that parents will be informed about in the termly information sheet. In Key Stage 2 all children will be provided with a book in which to record homework tasks. Parents are requested to sign the book weekly to confirm that they are aware of the work that has been set. By year 6 this becomes a formal homework diary.

### **Time Allocations for Homework at St Cleopas**

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Time Allocation</b>	<b>Subjects</b>
Reception	10 minutes per evening	Daily reading, occasional maths
Year1	One hour per week	Daily reading, maths, weekly spellings
Year2	One hour per week	Daily reading, weekly spellings practice, weekly maths
Year3	One and a half hours per week	Daily reading, weekly spellings practice and one other piece of homework per week
Year4	One and a half hours per week	Daily reading, weekly spellings practice and one other piece of homework per week
Year5	Two hours per week	Daily reading, weekly spellings practice and two other pieces of homework per week
Year6	Two hours per week	Daily reading, weekly spellings practice and other pieces of homework per week

This requirement follows the recommended national guidelines. The reading, especially in Key Stage Two, may form part of the other homework tasks.

### **Homework during School Holidays**

Compulsory homework will not be given during the Christmas, Easter or Summer Holidays. On occasions, teachers may give children the opportunity to research for project work during any holiday period, but this will be optional and additional time will be allocated during term time. It is anticipated however, that all children will continue to read to parents during holiday times, from either a reading scheme book or other chosen text as appropriate to their age.

### **Special Educational Needs**

The above timetable applies equally to children with recognised special educational needs. However, the children will receive differentiated tasks according to their needs, which may be from a different context to the rest of the class. Support in terms of expectation, and additional aids will be given.

### **Planning and Coordination**

It is the responsibility of the class teacher to plan and provide manageable tasks for the children and to liaise with parents where necessary . All parents will be informed at the beginning of each term of the regular homework pattern. This will include the day the work will be set and the deadlines for completion.

Any child who fails to complete homework in Key Stage 2 will be asked to stay in during the next morning's play to complete the task. If a pattern of avoidance develops the class teacher will give a detention at her discretion and parents will be informed. Children are not given homework when they are ill or absent for any other reason, unless in exceptional circumstances.

### **The Role of Parents**

Parents are asked to provide a suitable place in which homework can be completed, whether working alone or with an adult. It is essential that parents make it clear to their children that they value homework and are willing to support the school with their approach. This includes encouragement and praise at all levels.

Whilst parents are encouraged to support their child it is important to stress that most regular 'formal' exercises should be done without parental assistance. If parents do give assistance at any times they are asked to note this in the homework diary to inform the teacher. Class teachers are explicit with instructions, but parents are asked to consult them if unsure.

## **Feedback**

All homework is marked promptly and feedback given to pupils. This may take a variety of forms according to the work set, such as:

- Class discussion about the work
- tests
- individual written feedback
- individual verbal feedback
- merit awards (year 1 onwards)

Parents are encouraged to give teachers any useful feedback. This may include:

- notes on the reading card
- notes in the homework diary
- notes attached to exercise books
- verbal feedback

