

ST. HELEN'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL



Homework Policy

Written by	Date	Ratified by	Date
A. McAuliffe	2022	Governors	2022

To be reviewed	Annually	Every 3 Years
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Reviewed on	Reviewed by	Next review date
October 2022	C.Morris	October 2025

Homework Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

2 Rationale for homework

2.1 Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents.

2.2 Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

3 Aims and objectives

3.1 The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
- to promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school
- to help children develop good work habits for the future

4 Types of homework

4.1 We set a variety of homework activities. **See Appendix 1**

5 Pupils with special educational needs

5.1 We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

6 The role of parents

6.1 Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home.

6.2 We ask parents to check the home/school diary (reading diary) at least once a week and to sign it daily.

6.3 If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the year group leader or the Head Teacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy, or the way it is implemented, parents should contact the governing body.

7 Monitoring and review

7.1 It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the governing body that deals with curriculum issues. Parents complete a questionnaire during the school's OFSTED inspection, and our governing body pays careful consideration to any concern that is raised at that time, or in between OFSTED inspections, by any parent. The governing body may, at any time, request from the head teacher a report on the way homework is organised in our school.

Our Homework Policy (Appendix 1)

Reception	<p>Reading – (10 mins per evening minimum) Children should be reading their guided and 2 library books weekly. Parents should write comments in the reading diary to update teachers of their child’s progress at home; children will get a sticker in their reading diary every 5th time they are heard read at home.</p> <p>High Frequency Words (HFW) – Children should practise their HFW daily. They need to be able to read these words by sight and not sound them out.</p> <p>Spellings (if applicable) - Once the children are able to recognise all the HFW words by sight we revisit each set of HFW words and help the children to be able to spell them.</p> <p>Summer Term: Weekly Homework – This will be parent mailed to parents every <u>Friday</u>. It is due in via the year group email on the following <u>Thursday</u>. Instructions will be included in the email about the task. (reception@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk)</p> <p>Weekly Newsletter – Information on current learning and topics is available on the school website: Children – Year Group Pages - Reception</p>
Year 1	<p>Reading – (10 mins per evening minimum) Children should be reading their guided and 2 library books weekly. Parents should write comments in the reading diary to update teachers of their child’s progress at home; children will earn house points every 5th time they are heard read at home.</p> <p>High Frequency Words (HFW) – Children should practise their HFW words daily. They need to be able to read these words by sight and not sound them out.</p> <p>Spellings – Every Friday, the children will be given up to 6 words to learn. These will either be HFW, topic words or words based on grammatical rules learnt in class. Time will then be given each week to assess the children’s application of these spellings within their written work.</p> <p>Weekly Homework – This will be parent mailed to parents every <u>Friday</u>. It is due in via the year group email on the following <u>Thursday</u>. Instructions will be included in the email about the task. (year1@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk)</p> <p>Weekly Newsletter – Information on current learning and topics is available on the school website: Children – Year Group Pages – Year 1</p>
Year 2	<p>Reading – (15 mins per evening minimum) Children should be reading their guided 2 library books weekly. Parents should write comments in the reading diary to update teachers of their child’s progress at home; children will earn house points every 5th time they are heard read at home. In addition: Once children are fluent with their books, they will then receive an additional writing task every 2 weeks.</p>

High Frequency Words (HFW) (if applicable) – Children should practise their HFW words daily. They need to be able to read these words by sight and not sound them out.

Spellings – Every Friday, the children will be given up to 10 words to learn. These will either be HFW, topic words or words based on grammatical rules learnt in class. Time will then be given each week to assess the children's application of these spellings within their written work.

Weekly Homework – This will be parent mailed to parents every Friday. It is due in via the year group email on the following Thursday. Instructions will be included in the email about the task. (year2@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk)

Weekly Newsletter – Information on current learning and topics is available on the school website: [Children – Year Group Pages – Year 2](#)