



All Saints CE (VC) First School, Busy Bees & Kingfisher Club

Policy on Homework

Adopted: October 2019

Reviewed: October 2021

To be reviewed: October 2023

Why homework is important

Homework will help you and your child develop and learn together. It will sow the seeds of seeing learning as a lifelong activity, not just something that happens in school and will also give pupils who need it, some extra time to achieve their best.

OFSTED (Office for Standards in Education) highlighted how important homework can be at all stages in a child's education and that when "used properly, it extends the challenge open to the pupil and ensures that teaching time is used to maximum effect".

What is homework

Homework can help enrich and enhance learning and play activities in the home for both you and your child. It also supports classroom work and encourages children to share their school learning at home. Important homework activities include:

- work set by the school
- learning with your child at home
- reading
- everyday home-based learning - the guidance you give to your child

Why parent support is important

Working and playing at home is an important part of a child's education and development. You can help your child do better at school by supporting homework set by the class teacher and by learning and playing with your child.

Show your child you believe homework is important. Explain how it can help them make progress at school. Make the effort to look at what they have done, but try not to pressure them. Where you can - make homework fun, remember play can involve learning too and should be encouraged. We aim to enrich the curriculum through involving parents and to develop a partnership with parents. We hope that at home parents will encourage their children to follow up interests begun at school. We believe that children of First School age should not have an overload of homework. By parents working together with their children, supporting and encouraging them we aim to promote positive attitudes and enthusiasm for school. We hope that parents will support us in ensuring that homework is completed and handed in by the set date. It is hoped that by learning to complete homework and hand it in on time it will encourage the children to be independent learners and have responsibility for their own work ready for the Middle and High School.

What you can do

Support and praise your child's work, not just when it is completed, but while it is being done. By doing this your child will find it easier to learn. Even if you have many calls on your time, try and set aside a time when you can take an active interest in your child's work. If possible, provide a reasonably peaceful place in which your child can do homework. Perhaps turn off the TV while your child is working. Suitable background music sometimes helps. If you or your child have problems with homework, contact your child's class teacher who will be able to offer advice and help.

Homework will always be related to work that has been covered in class - it may be "tricky" but the children should not struggle with it. If children do have a problem with their homework we encourage them to tell the class teacher so that it can be explained and the problem identified as very often this is due to a simple misunderstanding or lack of confidence. Please do not hesitate to discuss with the class teacher if homework is a problem for your child.

Our homework programme

Reception

- Daily reading
- Phonics practise

Year 1

- Reading/Phonics

Each week your child will bring home two suitably challenging texts to share with you. They will also bring home high frequency words to learn to support their reading. (preferably 3 or 4 x per week for approximately 10 minutes).

- Maths activities

Each week your child will be set a maths task to complete with you. This will cover a wide range of activities, including practical tasks and games. Each week the work will be related to the concept that has been covered in their daily maths lessons.

- Topic

Each half term your child's class teacher will provide a sheet of suggested 20 minute homework tasks related to the learning questions being covered in class. We encourage you to select one task each week to complete with your child and return to school for inclusion in their Learning Links books when appropriate. However, if your child is inspired by the topic and wishes to create their own homework responses please do encourage them to do so.

Year 2

- Reading

Each week your child will bring home two suitably challenging texts to share with you.

- Maths activities

Each week your child will be set a maths task to complete with you. This will cover a wide range of activities, including practical tasks and games. Each week the work will be related to the concept that has been covered in their daily maths lessons.

- Topic

Each half term your child's class teacher will provide a sheet of suggested 15/20 minute homework tasks related to the learning questions being covered in class. We encourage you to select one task each week to complete with your child and return to school for inclusion in their Learning Links books when appropriate. However, if your child is inspired by the topic and wishes to create their own homework responses please do encourage them to do so.

Year 3 & 4

- Reading

Independent reading for pleasure.

- Maths activities

Each week your child will be set a maths task to complete. Each week the work will be related to the concept that has been covered in their daily maths lessons.

- Times Tables

Children are encouraged to develop fluency with their times tables through practice at home in preparation for the Multiplication Times Tables Check that takes place at the end of Year 4.

- Topic

Each half term your child's class teacher will provide a sheet of suggested 20 minute homework tasks related to the learning questions being covered in class. We encourage you to select one task each week to complete with your child and return to school for inclusion in their Learning Links books when appropriate. However, if your child is inspired by the topic and wishes to create their own homework responses please do encourage them to do so.

Inclusion

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, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Monitoring and review

A named member of staff is responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of this policy. It is currently the Headteacher.

This policy will be reviewed in two years, or earlier if necessary.