

Homework Policy

The Lord says, 'For I know the plans for you...plans to give you hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29 verse 11

Adopted: Wednesday 17th January 2024

Review: January 2025

Signed: *K Peeto* (Chair of Curriculum and School Improvement)

HOMEWORK POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Vision

The Lord says, 'For I know the plans I have for you plans to give you hope and a future.' Jeremiah 29 verse 11

As an inclusive Christian school, St Michael's Church of England (Aided) Primary School values everyone as a child of God and rejoices in its diversity. Our vision is to provide a happy, loving and nurturing environment where all have the confidence to make outstanding progress and so expand and fulfil their hopes and aspirations. Our inspiring, enriched curriculum promotes a thirst for knowledge and develops wisdom.

Motto

Learning to Love – Loving to Learn

'I give you a new command; love each other. You must love each other as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34

We believe the values of faith, hope, love and joy underpin all we do at St Michael's. We value and respect the diverse cultures and faiths represented by our school and wider community. We encourage pupils to share their experiences of faith and culture for the benefit of all.

At St Michael's CE (A) Primary School, we see education as a positive partnership between home and school; homework is a key part of this. It offers children the opportunity to become independent learners and to practise and apply skills learned in the classroom thereby increasing knowledge and understanding. Homework also offers an important opportunity for parents to work in partnership with school to support their child's learning. Homework is an opportunity to extend learning beyond the classroom and make connections with 'real life' contexts. It is also important that homework is seen as an enjoyable complement to what happens at school.

We would like to provide opportunities not only to reinforce key skills in English and Maths, but also for children to learn more across a range of subjects and become experts in those areas of interest to them.

Homework Review

We review our Homework Policy in light of suggestions and comments from parents, pupils and staff.

Aims for Homework

- To foster a love of learning both in and outside the classroom
- To create opportunities for children to share the curriculum and their learning with parents and carers at home
- To reinforce key skills in Maths and English, linked to work covered at school
- To provide greater opportunities for personalised learning, enabling children to extend themselves and develop skills and knowledge in their own area of interest

Through these aims the school will endeavour to:

- Provide opportunities to develop skills outside of school through a range of stimulating tasks
- Develop creativity in homework, through longer project-based homework activities
- Ensure there is sensible progression in tasks from one year group to the next, as well as the time expected to be spent on homework
- Allow children to share their learning with the class and their peers as they become an 'expert' in their chosen area.

Progression in activities and time

This is based on DfE guidance. It allows for progression between year groups and an increase in time as children become older and more independent learners. We recognise that children and families can often be very busy out of school, so we never set homework to be returned the following day.

Below is a brief outline of the range of homework set for each Key Stage at St Michael's:

Early Years and KS1

- RWInc phonics activities
- Reading books
- Topic based research
- TTRockstars (Year 2 only)
- Spellings set weekly (Year 2 only)

KS2

- Reading books sent home every day
- My Maths online learning activities to be set weekly
- Reading Comprehension to be completed weekly (CGP books)
- Topic based research
- TTRockstars
- Spellings set weekly

In addition in Year 6:

During the Spring Term and Summer Term, children in Year 6 may be asked to complete further homework as part of their preparation for the end of KS2 tests. This will be set at the teacher's discretion.

Inclusion

It is important that children of all abilities are set appropriate homework. Weekly homework activities may be differentiated according to children's ability or tasks may be set for children to complete at their own level of understanding. Staff will also aim to ensure that there are a wide variety of tasks that will be of interest to all children. If home circumstances make completing a piece of homework very difficult, then parents or children are encouraged to inform the class teacher and time or resources will then be made available to children in school. If a child cannot access the Internet at home for example, then arrangements will be made for them to use the Internet at school for research or to develop skills.

Homework and holidays

We do not set children homework during school holidays except in Year 6 leading up to SATs, but we still encourage children to read as much as they can. If children are taken out of school during term time to go on holiday, then we encourage them to write a holiday diary and take photos if they wish, then share that when they return.

Review and Monitoring

Monitoring of homework provision will be undertaken by the Senior Leadership Team on an annual basis. This policy will also be reviewed and developed annually.

St Michael's CE (A) Primary School



Homework in Key Stage 1

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In Key Stage 1 homework will include:

- Reading books. These are sent home every night. Please try to read with your child every night for 10 minutes.
- TTRockstars is available online to pupils in Year 2.
- Throughout the term, we encourage children to research the topics we are covering in school. Project-based homework will be set once a term and an explanation will be given.
- Spellings. These are set weekly in spelling booklets and tested in school the following week. (Year 2 only)



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Homework for Reception

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In Reception homework will include:

- Reading books. These are sent home every night. Please try to read with your child every night for 10 minutes.
- RWInc phonics activities may be sent out as necessary. The activities may involve rehearsing sounds and rehearsal of blending of these sounds in real and nonsense words.
- Name writing, number and letter formation sheets will be sent home as needed.
- Throughout the term, we encourage children to research the topics we are covering in school. Project-based homework will be set once a term and an explanation will be given.





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Homework in Key Stage 2

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In Key Stage 2 homework will include:

- Reading books. These are sent home every night. Please try to read with your child at least 3 times per week. 
- My Maths online homework to be set weekly. 
- A Reading comprehension to be completed weekly from CGP book, provided for each child.
- TTRockstars to be completed for 10 minutes each day.
- Spellings. These are set weekly in spelling booklets and tested in school the following week.
- Throughout the year, children will research the topics we are covering in school and complete project-based work.

In addition, in Year 6:

During the Spring Term and Summer Term, children in Year 6 may be asked to complete further homework as part of their preparation for the end of KS2 tests. This will be set at the teacher's discretion.



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