



Homework Policy

Because God calls us to fullness of life in Christ we provide varied exciting opportunities for children to achieve highly.

God invites us to promise **to keep everyone learning.**

Because God calls us to love our neighbour we respect and include each other and develop the skills of confidence, resilience, independence, empathy and understanding.

God invites us to promise **to keep everyone included.**

Because God calls us to live as faithful members of the community we respect the world around us.

God invites us to promise **to look after the world around us.**

Because God shows us the best way to live we get to know ourselves and learn how to be safe.

God invites us to promise **to keep everyone safe.**

Because God calls us to be like him we get to know ourselves and learn to respect the truth.

God invites us to promise **to be honest."**

Approved by	Approval date	Review date
Extraordinary meeting	Autumn 2015	Autumn 2016
SDC	Spring 2017	Spring 2020

Homework supports the development of independent learning skills and promotes the attitudes and skills to develop successful, independent lifelong learning. 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.

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practice or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare pupils for the transition.

Learning at home is an important part of the good education to which all our children are entitled.

Homework Challenges

Each class teacher will set their class homework challenges linked to the topic at the beginning of each half term. **This will be in addition to weekly tasks** which will focus on ensuring the children are reading at home, learning and recalling spellings and times tables.

Children will be expected to complete the activities and should hand their homework books in weekly. Times for handing books in may vary depending on class teachers.

Reading

We expect all children to read at least three times a week. Reading practice and listening to others read is essential throughout school. All children should either; read to their parents or carers, listen to them reading or, if they are fluent readers, read on their own for at least 10 to 20 minutes a day. The books we send home are less challenging than those we use for teaching reading in school. Your child should find it easy and enjoyable. If your child is struggling to read their home reading book, please see their class teacher.

Early Years and Foundation Stage

In the Foundation Stage it is vital that children read with their parents. We give guidance information to parents to help them achieve the maximum benefit from this time spent reading with their child.

Homework will be set around outcomes for 'Development Matters'. Parents will be encouraged to comment on the activity their child has been asked to do.

Years 1 - 6

We ask that children learn spellings in context, multiplication tables, number bonds and calculation strategies as part of their homework. We may ask children to take homework that they have started in school when we believe that they would benefit from spending further time on it.

Homework should consolidate and extend numeracy and literacy work carried out in class, or be research based to support topic work. Practice for statutory testing may also be sent home in years 2 and 6. Learning should be evidenced in the children's homework book in a variety of ways; diagrams, reports, stories and reports.

The Department of Education recommends that Key Stage 2 children spend 30 minutes on homework per night. Holy Family expects children to spend this time reading, learning their spellings and times tables. Teachers will keep a record of spelling and times tables results and will contact parents if children are not learning these essentials to discuss the expectations of their year group.

Online learning

There are websites that school purchases so children can access homework. If your child does not have internet access at home they can access the ICT suite in break, lunchtime or with you after school. All log in information will be in your child's Home – School Diary. These sites provide ongoing learning for all children.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

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 adopt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Personalised homework

Children who require additional support may be given extra homework to complete, this homework would be based on their individual needs and the school would expect children to complete the work to support them in meeting their age related targets.

Role of Class Teacher

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To give feedback to pupils – this maybe through marking, verbal feedback or through stamps and stickers.
- To monitor children who regularly do not hand in home work.
- To ensure there are high expectations – preparing children for the next stage in their education.

The Role of Parents

- Encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set and support the school homework policy.
- Help your child as you feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows them to do their best.
- Provide a good working space – free from too many distractions.
- Discuss the work that their child is doing. Talk to your child about their day. Open questions such as “What did you enjoy most today?” “Can you tell me a great word you’ve learned?” “If I called up your teacher, what would s/he say s/he had planned?”

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should in the first instance contact the child’s class teacher.

Time

We believe that regular short concentrated periods of time for homework is most effective. Ensuring children aren’t stressed about their homework is important.

Marking and Feedback

Not all homework will need to be formally marked but children will receive a variety of forms of feedback.

Monitor and Evaluating

The efficiency and effectiveness of this policy will be monitored and evaluated yearly by the Head Teacher, SLT and link Governor. Parents will be encouraged to feedback comments on their child’s homework regularly.