



Homework Policy

*"Working together
with parents, church and community
to create a distinctive environment
where the unique nature of each child
is respected and fostered"*

Consultation	Staff	Date: Feb 16	Governors	Date: Feb 16
Ratified by Governors:	Spring 2 2016			
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Link Policies	Assessment		Learning & teaching	
	All subject policies			
	Marking			

Copies of this policy can be found:

- On the school's VLE in the Staffroom course
- In the General policy file in the PPA room
- In the Staff Handbook
- On the School website

The following Appendices are attached:

1. Homework Guidelines

Why should pupils be given homework?

In general terms homework provides:-

- An effective partnership between school and home in pursuing the aims of the school.
- Consolidation and reinforcement of skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- An opportunity for pupils to use external resources and develop independent study.
- The opportunity for older pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study whilst preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

What Homework Tasks Will Be Set?

Homework tasks for any child should not be so difficult that they could not be completed by the child.

Tasks should

- * have a clear focus and time guideline
- * give plenty of opportunity for pupils to succeed
- * help develop social as well as other skills where necessary
- * be varied and not purely written tasks
- * be manageable for teachers

For EYFS and Key Stage One children, our aim is to develop a partnership with parents by involving them actively in their child's learning - the activities they do at home may/may not be described as homework.

Short activities of different kinds, e.g. simple games, learning spellings and reading together provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult.

As children get older homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning and this should increasingly become its main purpose.

Homework Projects

During the academic year children will be asked to do self-study relating to the history, science or geography project they are studying. This will encourage literacy and research skills. Pupils will be given guidance on the individual tasks they are asked to do, with suggestions for where information may be gathered.

Reading

Children will be asked to take their reading books home every day and at the weekend. Parents will be provided with information and questions to ask, when hearing their child read.

Maths

Pupils will be given maths homework on a regular basis. This will mainly focus on learning times tables and number bonds in the KS1 and lower KS2. In Years 5 and 6, activities may relate to learning strategies to help them make progress. **Children will be given examples of how they are expected to do calculations to complete homework tasks.** Parents will be asked to look at these methods, so that they can support their child by following the same procedures. The work set should be consolidation of the learning in class.

Special Education Needs

Pupils with special educational needs will have homework tasks to do appropriate to their ability and relevant to their individual education plan.

The role of the teacher

The class teacher will be responsible for setting homework for their class and ensuring that it covers curricular areas appropriately.

Teachers will set realistic timescales for work to be completed and they will monitor the demands made on pupils so that they are as even and balanced as possible.

The Role of the Parent and Carer

One of our aims at St Helen's has always been to form a partnership between home and school, to provide meaningful and supportive help for our children to enable them to achieve their best.

Parents can help their child by:

- * showing an interest in their homework, making time to sit and talk to them about it
- * providing a reasonably peaceful and suitable place
- * expecting that homework will be completed and returned to school on the designated day
- * encouraging and praising them

If a child experiences difficulty or has misunderstood a task, then we would ask parents to make a note of this and teachers will give appropriate help in school.

Parents of younger children are encouraged, as far as possible, to become actively involved in joint homework activities with their child. Class teachers are always available to give guidance if needed.

Support will be provided in school for children if necessary or requested by parents/carers.

Study Support Workshops

In the Spring term, Year 6 pupils will have the opportunity to have support to prepare for KS2 SATs. This support may be through the regular lessons, or by grouping pupils who need specific support in literacy, numeracy or science. Tasks may be set as homework to help pupils in their revision process.

KS2 pupils are encouraged to make use of the local library to support independent study tasks which they may be undertaking. They will also have the opportunity to use the school library and/or ICT Suite, if arrangements are made with the class teacher.

Homework Guidelines - the following are examples of the sorts of tasks that can be set, but should not be seen as a comprehensive list to be followed without fail.

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|----------|---|
| F1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Daily activities link to SFA theme - information goes home on Monday. * Rhyme to learn * Letter formation sheets (when appropriate) |
| F2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reading books (Autumn term) * SFA Reading book (Spring and Summer term) * Small daily task linked to Maths, English or topic |
| Year One | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reading books (daily) * Learning addition/subtraction facts * Green and Red words from Roots * Weekly class homework to consolidate learning * Occasionally activities to be done at home are suggested on the Class Dojo page. |
| Year Two | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reading books (daily) * Times tables weekly * Spellings weekly * Handwriting practice sheets as appropriate * Maths - using My Maths website weekly * Mini projects linked to topic work as appropriate |

Homework Guidelines for Key Stage Two

Year 3 & 4 pupils may have:

- * Maths based on current topic
- * Maths linked to intervention programmes
- * Daily reading
- * Handwriting practise
- * Grammar exercises
- * Weekly spellings/target spellings as appropriate to the needs of the child
- * Practising times tables

Year 5 & 6 pupils may have:

- * Times table practise
- * Extra maths based on arithmetic work
- * Weekly spellings/target spellings as appropriate to the needs of the child
- * Half termly project based on current topic
- * Revision work from Spring Term onwards
- * My Maths tasks