



St. John's CE Primary School Wetley Rocks

Homework Policy

Prepared by:	Sarah Stone
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Approved by	

“Shine like the star you are.”

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl, instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16

Our Vision:

To develop within ourselves an understanding of what is right and fair, and to have the strength to face challenges and do the right thing. To be people of hope.

To celebrate individuality, and to respect ourselves, others and the world in which we live. To be the best we can be.

Our Values (SHINE):

Strength: have the strength to stand up for what is right. Be a courageous advocate.

Hope: to be people of hope. Have hope when times are dark and difficult. Keep positive and be resilient – there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Individuality: embrace and celebrate our differences. God made us all unique and this is a very special thing.

Nurture (kindness / love / compassion / respect): cherish, care for, encourage and protect everything in God's world - including yourself.

Excel: fulfil your God given potential; be the best you can be. Shine like the star you are.

Homework Policy

We believe that education is a life-long process. A child's education does not cease when he /she leaves our school premises, learning at home is an essential part of good education.

"Homework" is any work or activity completed outside lesson time, either alone, with parents, or others. Homework makes an important contribution to progress at school.

We see the purpose of homework as being to:

- Develop an effective partnership between school and parents for each child's education, as children achieve more when teachers and parents work together.
- Consolidate/reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy.
- Utilise resources for learning available at home.
- Extend school learning.
- Develop confidence, independence and the self-discipline needed for personal study in preparation for secondary school and beyond.
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences.

From the Early Years simple games, learning spellings, and of course, reading with parents provides valuable opportunities for the reinforcement of key skills in a supportive environment. As children get older, they need to develop the habit of regularly devoting short periods of time to personal study. All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

This homework policy is designed:

- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the pupils.
- To extend and support learning.
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.

The emphasis of homework activities is on the development of skills of literacy and numeracy. From time to time, children may bring home a piece of work they have missed through absence, or for further reinforcement. Other activities are added as children move up the school. Regular reading is vital. It is our policy to set homework as follows:

Year Group	Approximate Time allocation	Activities
EYFS	10 minutes per evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading to parents. • Practical numeracy activities directed by the teacher or early phonics reinforcement work.
Year 1 and Year 2	1 hr per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phonetically decodable reading books, one per week. • Online Bug Club book, one per week. • Reading for pleasure book, one per week. • Spellings/phonics weekly. • When required, Maths facts linked to classroom learning and specifically targeted to individual children where appropriate. • Yr. 1 handwriting activities during the final term. • 1 other piece of curriculum learning may be sent home via Padlet.
Years 3 and Year 4	150 mins/week (25 mins reading 5x week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading to parents or independent reading. • Spellings activities using Spelling Shed. • Times Tables Rocks Stars. • Maths and English learning via Atom Learning. Atom Learning will adapt questions to suit the needs of the learner.
Years 5 and Year 6	175 mins/week. (30 mins reading – fiction or reference 5 x week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily independent reading. • Maths and English learning via Atom Learning. Atom Learning will adapt questions to suit the needs of the learner. • Spellings using Spelling Shed • If required, TTRS 15 minutes per week.

Please note: Homework tasks may need to vary as to the needs of the individual class and the individual child.

EYFS: Homework will be given to the children and placed in their red school bag.

In KS1, the class teacher will upload the homework to PADLET each week. The class teacher will inform you of the days the homework will be set and when it should be returned. This will be located on the PADLET main page and the school class page.

In KS2, homework will be uploaded to Spelling Shed and Atom Learning. TTRS and Accelerated Reader times will be monitored by the teachers. Parents will be informed if their child is not meeting their targets.

How staff at St. John's CE Primary support this policy:

- By providing a range of homework tasks and activities.
- By ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability.
- Uploading weekly work onto the PADLET and other learning platforms.
- Providing any necessary information to help the children complete their work.

How parents /carers can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets.
- Provide a suitable place equipped with a clear table space, chair and good light.
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it.
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework.
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework completed.
- Be actively involved in the homework.
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by a comment in a reading record. We would also be interested in hearing how well the children completed other activities, whether they were interesting / too easy / too hard, etc.
- Reinforce to the children about the need for exemplary presentation, layout, and handwriting. Explain that this is an extension of the schoolwork and so we expect the same high standards of completion.

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with.
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude.
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected.
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.