



Home Learning Policy 2022

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Home Learning Policy

Policy History	Date
Reviewed	September 2016
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THE AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

1. Ensure that our school is a happy, secure and supportive place, where everyone is valued.
2. Provide a rich, varied and stimulating curriculum, which is accessible to all.
3. Encourage a love of learning and the desire to expand their knowledge and skills throughout life.
4. Foster spiritual awareness and a sense of awe and wonder.
5. Develop the understanding and skills needed to become responsible and effective members of the school and as part of the wider community.

This policy will set out how these aims will be practically realised by staff and governors around the school and in the classroom with reference to home learning.



St Cuthbert's C of E Junior School

Home Learning Policy

We define home learning as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members. At St Cuthbert's Junior School we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see home learning as one way of developing this partnership. Home learning encourages parental involvement in children's learning and helps to develop independence. It is important however to remember and highlight to parents, that when a child has worked for a full day in school he/she may not respond positively to having large amounts of additional work. We aim to give children a manageable and purposeful amount of additional home learning to complete.

Our aims of providing home learning are to:

- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Encourage children to develop positive long term learning behaviours
- Prepare Year Six children for the secondary phase of education

Home Learning at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, St Cuthbert's Junior School is not a school where we want home learning dominate home and school life. We do, however, want it to be purposeful and meaningful. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that home learning should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice. We expect all children to complete homework but we do understand that sometimes there are exceptional circumstances which make this difficult. School will assess the reasons given for children not being able to complete their home learning on an individual basis. Home learning registers are kept and if a child consistently fails to complete and return tasks, this will be discussed with the child and their parents. For children who hand in their homework every week, they will receive a merit award as part of our behaviour system.

A very high emphasis has been placed on key skills in English and mathematics. It is essential that children have a secure understanding of key mathematical concepts and a range of spelling rules. In order for children to make the most progress, reading, spelling and multiplication/division facts need to be practised nightly.

Each week the children will have:

Reading



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- Reading is a life skill and it is essential that children are confident, fluent readers. As a school, we want to encourage and foster a love of books and reading. It is also a wonderful time for the parent to have one to one time with the child. We strongly recommend that children should be reading every night. Children will have a reading book along with a reading record for parents to write in / sign. When your child has finished their book they are encouraged to be responsible for choosing a new book.

Mathematics

- As part of our homework policy, we have purchased an online subscription service of **www.mymaths.co.uk** for all pupils. 'MyMaths' is an online resource with fun and varied activities that will reinforce your child's learning. Every child has individual login details that will allow them to access 'MyMaths' from any computer (PC or Mac) that has internet access. Weekly maths homework will be set on 'MyMaths'. If your child does not have access to a computer at home, there will be an opportunity for your child to attend Homework Club or other arrangements can be made by discussing the matter with the mathematics subject leader.

Spellings

- Weekly spellings will be given for the children to learn at home. Children will be tested at the end of every half term on the words they have been learning. These words will consist of words that they have found difficult in their writing and words that the children are required to know by the end of their school year.

Each half term the children will have a topic homework project

- Children will be given a selection of 6 - 8 different topic based tasks and they can choose which ones and how many to complete over the half term. These tasks will vary in subject, method of recording and in level of challenge. The intention is that within the list the children will find something that interests and engages them. They will have the whole half term to complete the homework. Completed homework projects will be due in just before half term and the projects will be shared in class and in a good work assembly. Teachers will comment on and reward completed homework projects. This is intended to reduce the conflict that some parents have reported having over homework.

Our routines and expectations

All classes give out weekly home learning on a Friday. If it is a piece that needs handing in, it is expected to be returned by the following Wednesday. The work should always have been explained and discussed in class before coming home. It is our intention, and good practice, not to send work home that the child cannot do i.e. parents are not expected to teach new skills. There should be a clear explanation/reminder from the teacher of what is expected. Each child has a home learning book and folder and the majority of tasks are kept in there. All home learning will be marked by a member of staff. In the weeks prior to SATs tests, the Year 6 children may be given additional revision work.

What to do if you have concerns



Embrace challenge Recognise uniqueness Celebrate achievement

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If you are concerned about any aspect of your child's home learning, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.