



St Edmund's Catholic Primary School - Homework Policy

Introduction

This policy has been written following consultation between staff, governors, parents and pupils at St Edmund's Catholic Primary School. Through our Homework Policy we aim to:

- ensure a consistent approach to homework across the school
- ensure parents / carers can support their children effectively
- extend and support our children's learning ensuring they all reach their potential
- contribute to good Home-School communication

The Purpose of Homework

At St Edmund's School we believe that homework is important because it:

- reinforces work done in school.
- helps to develop independent working.
- keeps parents informed about school work
- gets our oldest children into good practice for Secondary School
- helps to raise children's attainment
- gives parents an opportunity to spend time with their children
- helps to identify areas for improvement
- helps parents to see what their child is finding difficult

The Nature of Homework

Homework at St Edmund's will be set every week, but not during holidays. However reading will continue over the whole academic year.

Homework tasks at St Edmund's will vary depending on the age of the child.

Homework tasks may be English tasks, Maths tasks or based on topics being studied in class for RE, Science, History or Geography.

Homework will be based in one exercise book and the class teacher will provide a clear instruction sheet each week which will be attached to the homework book for reference.

Homework will be differentiated (either by task or by outcome) to take account of individual pupils' needs.

Possible Homework tasks could include:

Foundation Stage

- Reading, completing Reading Record weekly and phonics practise.

Year 1

- Reading, completing Reading Record weekly and phonics practise.
- Learning spellings

Year 2

- Write a poem/story based on work completed in class
- Maths exercises to consolidate learning in class
- A reading comprehension passage
- A short Maths / Science investigation at home
- Model making once or twice per year.

In addition, Year 2 children will complete these tasks weekly:

- Mental Maths corrections
- Reading and completing Reading Record
- Learning spellings

Key Stage 2

- Write a poem/story based on work completed in class
- Maths exercises to consolidate learning in class
- A reading comprehension passage
- A short Maths / Science investigation at home
- Model /Art / Project / baking / PowerPoint presentations

In addition, Key Stage 2 children will complete these tasks weekly:

- Mental Maths corrections
- 20 minutes of reading
- Learning spellings

Expectations

- Homework is to be done in pencil in Key Stage 1 or pen if a pen licence has been gained in Key Stage 2
- All lines must be drawn with a ruler using pencil only
- Neat and tidy handwriting to be used at all times
- Errors to be crossed out with a neat pencil line and not erased
- All working out will be shown for Maths work

Communication

Staff will inform parents via Class Newsletters at the start of each long term as to homework arrangements for the year. These newsletters are also displayed on our school website. Children will have some weekdays and a weekend to complete the homework.

Parents are encouraged to write comments to teachers under the completed piece of work.

Marking and Feedback of Homework

Class teachers will mark homework tasks each week.

Support with Homework

Parents are encouraged to talk to class teachers if they have any queries regarding homework.

Workshops for parents of children in Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will be held in order to support parents with English and Maths at home.

We have also produced a “St Edmunds’ Parents Guide to Homework” to support with homework.

Homework Club

At St Edmund’s we recognise that completing homework for some pupils may present difficulties. To address this, we offer a Homework Club after school for Key Stage 2 pupils as well as a Year 6 Homework Club. If homework is consistently not completed children will be given teacher support during lunch-break or playtime.

Responsibilities

The Governing Body will:

- Take responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure that homework is built into teachers’ planning and ensure consistency across the school
- Provide supportive guidance for parents
- Keep up to date with new developments with regards to homework
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of this policy

Teachers will:

- Integrate homework into their planning
- Set a variety of tasks and activities for homework

- Set homework appropriate for each child
- Explain when, what and how the work will be done so that each child clearly understands what he/she must do
- Provide opportunities for the sharing of homework tasks in class as appropriate and provide timely feedback to pupils
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of this policy

Parents / Carers are asked to:

- Support the homework set
- Read with their child and make a note in their child's Reading Record for the whole primary school life
- Support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework is completed
- Be actively involved in the homework of their children
- Contact the class teacher/ school if they are not sure of some aspect of the homework or their child is experiencing difficulty doing it
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of this policy

Children are asked to:

- Complete their homework and hand it in on time
- Listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them
- Have a go at all homework activities
- Act on feedback given by the teacher

Policy written: June 2015

Reviewed: June 2018

Next review date: June 2021