ST LUKE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
POLICY FOR HOMEWORK

Summer 2022

Learning is very much enhanced when parents are actively involved with pupil's school work. What we call homework should be a means of linking the learning that occurs at home with the learning that occurs at school. Homework must be purposeful, positive, fair, differentiated to match needs, time limited and enjoyable.

Aims

- to encourage purpose and enjoyment of learning
- to celebrate learning that has occurred so that pupils feel a sense of achievement
- to apply, consolidate and extend knowledge, understanding and skills introduced or learnt at school
- to provide opportunities for parents to share and understand the work carried out at school
- to develop organisational skills and pupils' abilities to begin to take responsibility for time management
- to develop independent learning skills
- to enrich school learning with personal interest
- to give opportunity to prepare, research or merely think about topics or themes so that they can be considered in greater depth at school
- prepare Year 6 pupils for the demands of the Key Stage 3 homework systems

Delivery / Implementation

All work sent home has a purpose which is shared with and understood by pupils. It is important that pupils and parents feel the work they undertake at home is valued by teachers and worthwhile. An efficient and effective system of feedback about homework is essential to ensure it is worthwhile. This may be through written comments on work, discussion with pupils, or Reading Diary comments.

All homework allows for equal opportunities as set out in St Luke's School Equal Opportunities Policy. No pupil or parent may be discriminated against because of their social circumstances, race, religion, physical or mental ability. Care is taken not to assume pupils have access to libraries or computer equipment and should homework be linked to an internet site (e.g. Hit the Button, Times Tables Rockstars), then opportunities in school to do the homework will be provided.

The following table outlines the maximum times children spend on school work at home:

Year Group	Time Allocation	Activities
Year 1 and 2	Minimum 10 minutes per night	**Reading,** spelling, number bonds and/or times tables.

Year 3 and 4	Minimum 15 minutes per night	Reading, spelling, arithmetic and times tables.
Year 5 and 6	Minimum 20 minutes per night	Reading, spelling, grammar and arithmetic.

In addition to the above, there may be occasional topic homework or activities set to reinforce learning in school.

1. The Foundation Stage

Parents are expected to hear their child read, share books with their children, practise their letter sounds and simple spellings and draw children's attention to words and numbers in their environment.

2. Key Stage 1 (Maximum expectation 1 hour per week)

Reading

Children in Year R, KS1 and any child in KS2 with gaps in their phonic knowledge, are given a reading book by their class teacher to take home and practise reading to their parents. Once children's phonic knowledge is secure, they choose a banded reading book to take home to read with and to their parents each evening. Comments and feedback are recorded in their Reading Diaries. Reading diaries will be checked weekly in school and teachers will initial the child's reading chart each time they have been heard to read at home. Children receive a certificate when each chart has been filled.

Parents are expected to share stories, information texts, signs, notices, notes etc informally with their children as they are encountered in everyday activities.

The Y1/2 /High frequency words from the National Curriculum are sent home at the beginning of the year to practise and learn.

Spelling – Years 1-6

The spelling rule for the week and a list of spellings (including up to three common exception words) is sent home on Monday for the children to learn that week using the look, cover, write, check method. There will be a test of these words on a Friday. Children working below age related expectation for spelling will receive a personalised spelling list which they will also be tested on a Friday.

Mathematics

KS1

Parents are encouraged to support their child in Maths. Maths homework will include activities based on current learning but focus on children developing a good sense of number and learning their number bonds. Use of Hit the Button will be a core component to support this. In addition to this, children will be expected to know their 2x, 5x and 10x table by the end of Year 2.

KS2

Parents are expected to support their child in Maths. Maths homework will focus on children learning their times tables. Use of Times Table Rockstars will be a core component to support this. Children will be expected to know all of their times tables by the end of Year 3 /4. In Year 5 and 6, the focus will be on arithmetic. Individual classes may also set additional homework to reinforce learning in school.

Topic Homework

In addition to the above, there may be occasional topic homework or activities set to reinforce learning in school.

3. Homework Principles

Homework is expected to be completed to a high standard and on time.

Parents and pupils are encouraged to discuss any difficulties, misunderstandings etc with their class teacher so that there is constructive dialogue between home and school.

If a child is unable to complete a piece of homework due to unforeseen circumstances, a note from their parent requesting an additional day is expected.

Sanctions

All pupils are expected to complete their homework on time and to a good standard. If this does not happen, pupils will be asked to complete or improve their homework during lunchtime or to take it home. If there is a persistent problem, parents will be informed.

Roles and Responsibilities

Teachers are responsible for:

- planning and setting homework tasks which are matched to the child's ability, build on and support what is learned in the classroom and can be completed within the allocated time for homework
- providing appropriate feedback on all homework tasks completed at home
- keeping a homework record e.g. checklist
- supervising pupils completing homework at lunchtimes and when appropriate involving parents
- maintaining an ongoing dialogue with parents through home reading diaries.

Parents are responsible for:

- providing a suitable place for children to complete their homework, if possible away from other family distractions
- showing an interest and providing encouragement, supporting where additional help is required
- informing the school of any problems relating to homework and writing any comments in the home school reading/ homework diary.

Pupils are responsible for:

- taking their homework books home and other information needed to complete the homework task
- treating their homework books with care and respect and returning them to school each week
- asking for help from teachers if they do not understand a task
- completing homework on time and to the best of their ability
- a charge of 50p will be made to replace lost reading diaries.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.