


## Our Lady & St Anne's RC Primary School

### HOMEWORK POLICY

<b>Date of Ratification:</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>	<b>Signed:</b>   <b>(HEAD TEACHER)</b>  <b>Christine Baker (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)</b>
<b>Review date:</b>	<b>January 2017</b>	<b>Signed:</b>   <b>&lt;HEAD TEACHER&gt; (HEAD TEACHER)</b>  <b>&lt;CHAIR OF GOVERNORS&gt; (CHAIR OF GOVERNORS)</b>
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### Safeguarding Statement

At Our Lady & St Anne's RC Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Our Lady & St Anne's RC Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

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**1. What are the aims of this policy?**

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school;
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework;
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

**2. What is the purpose of homework?**

- For the children to have fun and enjoy working at home to consolidate, reinforce and extend their skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy;
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together;
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school;
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

**3. What is the role of the school?**

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework;
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed;
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.

**4. What is the role of the teacher?**

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child;
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given;
- To mark and give feedback about homework;
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework;
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

**5. What is the role of the parent?**

- To support the child in completing homework;
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time;
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework;
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

## **6. What is the role of the child?**

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week;
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set;
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work;
- To hand the homework in on time;
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

## **7. Homework in Reception/ Foundation Stage**

Parents will be informed of the phonemes that the children are learning in school.

Learning should be fun and enjoyable, so we encourage parents to share their children's learning in lots of different and fun ways. We would like to see all children having fun reading at home and parents are encouraged to use the books and information school sends home to read frequently with their child.

Current practice in school is:

### **Nursery**

Home link book is sent home weekly with suggested activities for parents and children together to compliment current theme.

### **Reception**

Daily phonics are sent home until initial letter sounds are mastered. Home link books go home each Friday with a Maths or Literacy task. Children have access to Reading Eggs and Lexia. Reading books are sent home once/week.

### **How much time should be spent on homework?**

As much as you feel your child is comfortable doing but try and do small amounts regularly rather than a lot at once.

## **9. Homework in Key Stages 1 & 2**

For children in Key Stage 1 & 2 we encourage parents to work together with their child to support them with their homework. The emphasis remains on Literacy, Reading and Numeracy skills.

Current practice in school is:

### **Year 1**

Reading books are sent home once a week (word boxes for more ale). All children have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome, Lexia and Reading Eggs online. A written task is set each Friday.

## **Year 2**

Children are expected to read daily. All children have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome, Lexia and Reading Eggs online. Weekly spellings are set as well as a weekly Maths or Literacy activity. Timetables are expected to be learnt.

## **Year 3**

Children are expected to read daily. Spellings are given out weekly to learn. In the autumn term one piece of written homework is set either Maths or Literacy. From January this rises to two. All children have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome, Lexia and Reading Eggs online. Timetables are expected to be learnt.

## **Year 4**

Children are expected to read at least 2 books at home a week. They have to learn spellings for a weekly test. Children will get weekly Maths homework as well as a task for Literacy, Science or R.E. All children have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome, Lexia and Reading Eggs online. Timetables are expected to be learnt.

## **Year 5**

Children are expected to read every day at home. They have to learn spellings and tables for a weekly test. Children will get weekly Maths homework as well as a task for Literacy, Science or R.E. All children have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome, Lexia and Reading Eggs online.

## **Year 6**

Children are expected to read every day at home. They have to learn spellings and tables on a regular basis. All children have access to Mathletics, Spellodrome, Lexia and Reading Eggs online. Children will get 5 written homework tasks a week, a reading journal, 2 Literacy tasks and 2 Numeracy tasks. They will also have a homework diary in preparation for secondary school.

## **How much time should be spent on homework?**

Try to do some reading every day and the spellings or other homework when it is sent, ideally 10-15 minutes a night to ensure the children are not overloaded.

## **10. Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How can parents find out more information about homework?**

Each year group will inform the parents about ways to work with their children through the half termly newsletters and specific information given in the homework instructions.

Teachers will have different systems for handing in homework and they will tell parents and children about this.

If parents need advice on how to support their children with homework then they can talk to the class teacher.

### **Why will children sometimes be given extra homework?**

Children who take part in intervention may sometimes be set extra homework to reinforce the work being done. Additionally children who work in a one to one situation with teaching assistants will sometimes be given extra homework. In both cases, children should complete this work alongside their normal homework unless the child or the parents have been told otherwise. If the child is finding they have too much work then parents should speak to the child's teacher or the person facilitating the specialised lessons.

### **What about children who don't complete homework?**

The expectation is that children will complete homework. Teachers will keep records of children completing homework and these records will be checked on a regular basis. If there are any problems with children not completing homework then the teacher will speak to parents to find out why.

### **What about children who need support with homework?**

Lunchtime homework support and after school homework club is offered to these children that need help/further support.

### **What if a child says they have received no homework?**

It is unlikely that there will be many occasions when homework is not set for the children even if it is just to continue reading their book. If a child says they have received no homework please check with the teacher in case they have missed it being given out. There may be occasions if the teacher is away that the homework is not set but we will try to avoid that happening.

### **How will the homework be marked?**

Teachers will mark children's homework in a variety of ways but always according to the schools marking policy. Children may be given verbal feedback or there may be written feedback on the individual homework pieces set by the teacher. As the children move up the school, there will be an emphasis on self-marking with the teacher.