

## **ST ROBERT SOUTHWELL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL** **HOMEWORK POLICY**

In our Catholic school Christ and the Gospel values are at the centre of all our teaching therefore we recognise and value the sacredness of each individual in our community. We will do our best to foster self-esteem so that children may develop a positive self-image and become confident, independent, autonomous, lifelong learners who know how to learn and have the disposition to do so.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

A homework programme helps children to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Homework also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important as it gives children the opportunity to practise at home the tasks covered in class, and helps the children work towards improving important skills. It also helps children and young people to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school and in adult life.

We acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children and their families being able to take part in the wide range of out of school clubs and organizations that play an important part in the lives of many children.

### **AIMS**

Part of our mission at St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School is to create good relationships between home and school. We believe that a strong partnership between school and home is at the heart of successful education. Regular, well-planned homework can:

- enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- help pupils develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own and prepare them for the requirements of secondary education;
- develop an effective partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- exploit all resources for learning and provide educational experiences not possible at school;
- consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons;
- help children develop good work habits for the future;

- provide opportunities for parents and pupils to enjoy learning experiences together;
- help parents gain an insight into their child's schoolwork.
- enable work to be personalised to the interest of individual children.

The main focus of homework will be reading, numeracy and Spelling. Homework will at times consist of formal exercises to be completed by the child but will also include activities to be completed jointly by the parent and child, e.g. reading and research. Children who regularly read to and with parents/carers benefit by gaining in confidence and fluency as readers.

We also set homework in Key Stage 2 as a means of helping the children to revise for examinations as well as to ensure that prior learning has been understood.

## AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK

We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school.

## NO HOMEWORK TO BE SET IN THE HOLIDAYS

Year 6 to be given SATs revision where necessary and will be approved by the Headteacher.

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Subjects</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Daily reading</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Weekly Homework</b> Daily Reading Spellings/Phonics  <b>Termly</b> RE homework  <b>Extra opportunities</b> Practise number bonds and times tables Use Mathletics
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Weekly Homework</b> Daily Reading Spellings/Phonics 20 Minute Maths task  <b>Termly</b> RE homework  <b>Extra opportunities</b> Practise number bonds and times tables Use Mathletics
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Weekly Homework</b> Daily Reading Spellings 20 Minute Maths task  <b>Termly</b> RE homework  <b>Extra opportunities</b> Practise times tables Use Mathletics

<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p><b>Weekly Homework</b>  Daily Reading  Spellings  20 Minute Maths task</p> <p><b>Termly</b>  RE homework</p> <p><b>Extra opportunities</b>  Practise times tables  Use Mathletics</p>
<p><b>Year 5</b></p>	<p><b>Weekly Homework</b>  Daily Reading  Spellings  30 Minute Maths task</p> <p><b>Termly</b>  RE homework  Independent Project (2 terms only)</p> <p><b>Extra opportunities</b>  Practise times tables  Use Mathletics</p>
<p><b>Year 6</b></p>	<p><b>Weekly Homework</b>  Daily Reading  Spellings  30 Minute Maths task  (SATs revision when necessary)</p> <p><b>Termly</b>  RE homework  Independent Project (2 terms only)</p> <p><b>Extra opportunities</b>  Practise times tables  Use Mathletics</p>

## **MATHLETICS**

This is an on line learning platform for mathematics that all pupils from Year One upwards can access at home. It is the child's choice to do this at home. Children receive certificates at certain benchmarks. When they receive silver and gold certificates these are presented at a merit assembly in school. Regular use of Mathletics for homework has a significant impact on children's knowledge and skills in mathematics.

## **MATHEMATICS**

In the new mathematics curriculum introduced in September 2014 children are expected to know the following in counting and number relationships:

**Year 1** Know addition and subtraction facts for each number to at least 10 and number bonds to 20. Counting on and back in 1s, 2s, 5s & 10s to the 10<sup>th</sup> multiple and doubles to 10.

**Year 2** Know addition and subtraction facts for each number to at least 20, all pairs of multiples of 10 with totals to 100, recall multiplication and division facts for 2s, 5s and 10 times table.

**Year 3** Recall all addition and subtraction facts for each number to 20 and sums and differences of multiples of 10 and number pairs to 100. Recall multiplication and division facts for the 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 8s and 10 times tables.

**Year 4** Know sums and differences of pairs of multiples of 10, 100 or 1000. Recall all division and multiplication facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12.

**Year 5** Recall all division and multiplication facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12 quickly and multiply and divide numbers mentally drawing on known number facts. Identify multiples and factors and pairs of factors of two digit whole numbers and common factors of two numbers.

**Year 6** Multiply one digit numbers with up to two decimal places by whole numbers, e.g.  $8.26 \times 9 =$ , use knowledge of multiplication facts to  $10 \times 10$  to work out related multiplication and division facts involving decimal numbers, e.g.  $0.8 \times 7 =$ ,  $4.8 \div 6 =$ . Identify prime numbers up to 100.

**Parents need to work with the school to support their children at home with the learning of number facts if the children are to achieve the new higher and challenging expectations in mathematics.**

## **PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES**

The above timetable applies equally to children with special educational needs and disabilities. However, these children will receive differentiated tasks according to their needs, which may be from a different context to the rest of the class.

## **THE ROLE OF PARENTS**

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process.

We ask parents to:

- encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set within the expected timescales;
- make it clear to children that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help them make progress;
- give praise for the completion of homework;
- help their children as they feel necessary
- support their child by providing a good working space at home,
- enable their child to visit the library regularly;
- discussing the work that their child is doing;
- check the home/school book at least once a week and sign it when requested.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the Headteacher.

## **PLANNING AND COORDINATION**

It is the responsibility of the class teacher to plan and provide manageable tasks for the children and to liaise with parents where necessary. All parents will be informed at the beginning of each term of the regular homework pattern. This will include the day the work will be set and the deadlines for completion. Any child who fails to complete homework in Key Stage 2 without a reasonable explanation will be asked to stay in detention during the next morning's play to complete the task. If a pattern of avoidance develops the class teacher will inform the parents and head teacher.

## **HOLIDAY HOMEWORK**

During the holidays, compulsory homework will only be given to Yr 6 pupils. This is usually in the form of SATs papers or revision.

Teachers may give children the opportunity to research for project work during any holiday period, but this will be optional and additional time will be allocated during term time. It is anticipated however, that all children will continue to read to parents during holiday times, from either a reading scheme book or other chosen text as appropriate to their age and to practise their number facts

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

All teaching and non-teaching staff at St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School are responsible for ensuring that all pupils, irrespective of gender, ability, ethnic origin and social circumstances, have access to the whole curriculum and make the greatest possible progress.

All children have equal access to homework. Day to day monitoring of the Homework Policy and the provision of equal opportunities is the responsibility of the class teacher.

**Reviewed September 2017 James Field**  
**Review date September 2018**