



*Kirkstall St Stephen's
C of E (VA) Primary School*

Homework Policy

September 2017

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all children, and expects our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Kirkstall St Stephen's C of E Primary School

Homework Policy

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KSS School Mission Statement

We are cherished, we are challenged, we are children of God

Our Vision

We are cherished – we aim to create a caring environment where all children and staff feel welcome, valued, supported and respected.

We are challenged- through a stimulating and challenging learning environment, where achievements are recognised but it is also safe to fail, increasing our resilience.

We are children of God – we recognise the value of each and every individual, encouraging everyone's unique spiritual development and potential.

Our Ethos Statement

Our school ethos is represented by the KSS Values Tree; showing children's growth as a tree planted firmly into God's sustaining love and rooted in our school values of: trust, justice, perseverance, respect, thankfulness and forgiveness.

This is based on Psalm 1:1-3.

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They are like trees that grow beside a stream,
that bear fruit at the right time,
and whose leaves do not dry up.

They succeed in everything they do

Rationale

At Kirkstall St Stephen's C of E Primary School we understand the benefits home learning can bring and we aim to make all homework from school fun, meaningful and beneficial. This policy has been written as a working document and will be reviewed annually or more frequently as required.

The main purposes for homework are either to extend and consolidate what has been learnt in class or to find out information and develop ideas to prepare for future learning. Homework set aims to develop Literacy, Numeracy and Cross-Curricular skills.

Objectives

- To strengthen home school links
- To develop pupils skills across the curriculum
- To further embed skills learnt in school
- To support children in the transition throughout school and on to High School

Equal Opportunities

Homework will be set for all pupils in school for KS1 & 2. Homework may be differentiated according to the needs of the pupils within the class; this will be at the teacher's discretion. It is essential that all pupils attempt the homework and hand it into school on time. If there is any reason that a pupil cannot complete the work at home; we ask that the parent or carer of that child informs the class teacher. School may be able to support pupils by offering alternatives or using the daily lunchtime homework club.

Provision

Below we provide guidelines for the amount of homework which you can expect to be set for your child and how long they should be spending on their work. Times are an approximation; the proportion of time spent on each area may vary according to the task set.

Early Years/Foundation Stage

Reading is the main priority for pupils attending our Foundation Stage. We encourage pupils to read daily with a parent or carer. The teacher may set additional learning tasks if he/she deems it appropriate.

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

Mathematics*	5 minutes, 3 times per week (15 minutes) This will be to reinforce the work done in class. It may be written work or mental maths.
Reading	5 minutes, 5 times per week (25 minutes) Reading books will be sent home from school. Children are required to read with an adult who is then asked to sign the child's Reading Record, making any notes as appropriate.
Spelling/Phonics* (Literacy)	15 minutes per week Class teachers will send home a list of words for the children to practice. They will be taught the spellings in school, revising them at home will secure the children's knowledge.
Topic/Other	20 minutes per week The children may be set a challenge with the aim of developing additional skills. This may relate to the work children are doing in class.
Total Time per Week	70minutes (10 minutes per day)

*Mathematics and Literacy homework may be set on alternate weeks to allow for longer tasks, if the teacher deems this is appropriate and beneficial.

Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3&4)

Literacy*	40 minutes per week Children in years 3&4 should be reading regularly. As in Key Stage 1 the children are provided with Reading Records and a parent or carer is asked to sign it and make any notes as appropriate. In addition to this the children can expect to get a Literacy task designed to further develop skills they have been learning in class. Spellings lists will be provided and tests done weekly.
Mathematics*	25 minutes per week Mathematics homework will be set as either written form, mental maths or a mixture of both. The work should reinforce skills learnt in school and help children progress in core areas. We use Timestable Rockstars in school to develop their multiplication skills- your child should know their log in.
Topic/Other	30 minutes per week A piece of Topic/creative homework may be set weekly. The task may be open ended to encourage the child's creativity.
Total Time per Week	1 hour 30 minutes per week

*Mathematics and Literacy homework may be set on alternate weeks to allow for longer tasks, if the teacher deems this is appropriate and beneficial.

Upper KS2 (Years 5 & 6)

Literacy*	<p>Reading: 40 minutes (10 minutes, 4x per week) Reading records should be filled in by the child and/or an adult.</p> <p>Spellings will be sent home and weekly tests administered.</p> <p>Task: 35 minutes: Grammar/Writing Tasks will be sent out; these may link to class topics or be to develop discrete skills.</p>
Numeracy*	<p>Mental Maths: 30 minutes (10 minutes, 3x per week)- in school we use Timestable Rockstars (TTRS) to develop multiplication skills.</p> <p>Task: 45 minutes written/computer based Maths Task/Practical Problem. This may link to topics or be to develop discrete skills.</p>
Total Time per Week	2 hours 30 minutes per week

*Mathematics and Literacy homework may be set on alternate weeks to allow for longer tasks, if the teacher deems this is appropriate and beneficial.

Communicating Homework with Parents

Homework tasks will be given out to the children on paper as well as being placed on the school website under the appropriate section of the class page.

Marking & Feedback

Homework will be reviewed by the class teacher and feedback given. It is at the teacher's discretion as to whether the feedback provided is verbal or written, and will vary from task to task.

Governors

The Governors on the Curriculum Committee will monitor the effectiveness of this policy.

Staff & Governors will ensure the policy is adhered to and revised as appropriate.

The Governing body, Headteacher and the Deputy Headteacher will review the needs of the teaching and support staff and provide INSET via external courses and in school training. The needs of the school, pupils and the interests of staff will also be taken into account when planning INSET.