

# ST. Paul's CE Academy



## Home Learning Policy

Person responsible for the policy	Co Headteachers
Date reviewed and shared with staff	March 2020
Date to next be reviewed by staff	March 2025
Signed by Chair of Governor:	Signed by Head Teacher:

## School Vision

"To create a Christian school which **ignites a thirst for knowledge** in every individual, **where curiosity and talent are cultivated**, and children are **empowered** to channel their **love of learning** to achieve their God-given potential."

### Introduction:

This guidance is to enable and support learning at home. We value all of the enthusiastic and supportive guidance parents give to their children at home and we want to assist with this to ensure all children meet their potential.

### Aims:

- To ensure set work is consistent across the school and in line with age related expectations;
- To help children take ownership of their own learning;
- To develop children's excitement and passion for their learning;
- To aid parents in supporting their children at home and have an understanding of how it fits in with classroom learning.

### Fundamental principles:

The fundamental principles which underpin the Home Learning policy are:

- A firm understanding that learning continues beyond the school;
- That learning and understanding are deepened through repetition and practice.
- That learning should be fun and creative;
- Reading regularly should be part of a child's routine;
- Basic maths skills, such as multiplication tables and number facts should be regularly practised;
- Spelling patterns and key words should be regularly practised, preferably in the context of a sentence (when they are ready to do this);
- An increase in challenge with age and consistency of practice across the school;
- Children should take some responsibility for their learning from an early age.

### Basic routines:

- Reading regularly, **aiming for 5 times a week** and a **minimum of 20 minutes** a day for KS2 and **10 minutes** a day for KS1, either being heard read or reading independently;
- Weekly Maths home learning (mental or written depending on year group);
- In Year 2, Home Learning is set on a Friday and expected to be completed by the following Friday;
- In KS2, Home Learning is set;
- Reading books and reading records for all year groups should be brought in on a daily basis.

### Reading:

The pupils are encouraged to read regularly for both their own development and also for enjoyment. The frequency that books are taken home from school varies with age and ability:

- **Nursery**, parents are able to take books to share with their child;
- **Reception**, children take one reading book at a time, unless they are able to manage two. The books are changed twice a week, generally on a Monday/Tuesday and Friday. Towards the end of the school year, from Term 5 onwards the children are requested to hand their book in when they need a new one to prepare them for the routine in year 1. Children are welcome to take a book home from the book boxes outside of the classroom. Children are encouraged to use the library with their parents and to take story sacks;
- **Years 1 & 2**, children will take home a levelled book;
- **Years 3 -6**, children independently choose a new home book from their book level in their class. These are to be brought in daily and changed when completed;
- Reading records for years 1-6 should be brought in daily so these can be checked in class at least once a week. These will be signed by the child's class teacher (initials);
- The library is open for children daily after school and each year group is allocated a lunch time to choose books of an appropriate level, if your child wishes to read these. Teachers will review the book levels termly to see if books are at the correct level, and if new ones need to be set.

### Reading Records:

Every child from Reception to Year 6 will have a reading record which they either fill in or, for younger or less able children, an adult will complete. This will enable us to see how much reading is being done at home. Books taken from the library may also be recorded in the planner. Confident readers may read alone or to an adult and less confident readers

should read aloud. These are to be brought in daily and teachers will check and sign reading records on a weekly basis to ensure children are reading regularly.

### EYFS and KS1:

Each entry will need:

- The date;
- The book being read;
- How much was read and any comments about how they got on;

### KS2:

- Reading records are pre- populated with the week beginning and the day of the week, in a one week format;
- Children write in the book title and page numbers they have read;
- Children, depending on their ability, complete the entry for the appropriate day they have read; They are expected to write a comment on what they have read;
- There is a weekly writing journal task, which the children complete to the best of their ability- remembering their writing expectations set in school- neat presentation, punctuation, cursive handwriting (see back of the planner).

### Nursery:

Parents, of older children, are given Maths and Literacy packs at the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6

### EYFS:

In Reception, after the first parental curriculum evening in term 1, key words are sent home along with their reading book; there are 16 sets of key words.

### Year 1:

In Year 1, phonic sheets with all sounds; information about the phonics screening test and a list of phonics websites that can be accessed at home are given out at the first parent consultation in Term 2.

Subsequent termly homework grids will have two phonics based activities as well as opportunities to apply what children have learnt.

### Maths:

In Years 1 to Year 6 children may use the online learning platform- [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk) to build on their class maths learning. This mainly focusses on children answering questioning and solving problems mentally. Parents will receive a parent letter with **their child's login and password**

**In Years 5 and 6**, there will be a mixture of written maths work set or MyMaths activities set. This is to give the older children more opportunities to practice and apply written strategies.

### **Multiplication Tables:**

It is the National Curriculum expectation that all children will know a range of multiplication tables and facts (**at least up to 12x12**) by the **end of Year 4**.

### **Spellings:**

Children are not tested on their spellings, however they are expected to spell increasingly complex words in their daily writing. High frequency words and statutory spellings lists are located at the back of the Key Stage 1 and 2 planners.

If children would like to practise their spellings, they are to use the spelling rules they have been learning in class until they are ready to put them into sentences.

### **Creative Topic Home Learning: KS2**

To encourage children to take responsibility for their own learning and to develop excitement about a range of subjects, they may have half termly creative Home Learning curriculum bingo style boards or an individual topic activity, these activities give the children opportunities to apply their knowledge and practice new and developing skills.

### **Marking:**

All weekly written home learning will be acknowledged in the form of a stamp or a tick. Creative home learning projects will be shared amongst the children's peers where they will have the opportunity to receive peer and teacher verbal feedback.

### **Home learning that is not being completed:**

Parents are encouraged to tell the class teacher if a child is unable or unwilling to complete Home Learning tasks independently, as they might be able to offer you further support on how to do it. Teachers will discuss any concerns about Home Learning tasks initially with children and then parents, in order to find out the reasons behind incomplete tasks. Overall the responsibility for ensuring children are doing their home learning rests with parents but teachers will offer support if needed.