

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## Home Learning Policy



### Rationale

This is the school's policy for the provision of home learning to pupils and has been drawn up in accordance with guidance issued by the DfE, recognising that 'home learning tasks should be carefully designed to meet the child's individual needs, including children with special educational needs.'

### Intent

Through this policy we aim to:

- To encourage pupils to develop the practice of independent study.
- To develop perseverance and self-discipline.
- To practise, or consolidate, basic skills and knowledge learnt in the classroom, especially in Maths and English.
- To involve parents (and other adults) in pupils' work.
- To acknowledge that home learning will continue to be an essential part of a pupil's ongoing education.

### Implementation

- Home learning will not be set during the holiday breaks.
- Home learning will be set over a ten week period during the term. The homework dates will be posted in the school newsletter.
- Teachers will inform parents if children regularly fail to complete their home learning.
- Where children do not have access to online homework, the class teacher will provide an alternative.
- Home learning will focus on reading, spelling and mathematical reinforcement.
- English and Maths tasks will be set via IXL and TTRS.
- Children from Y2 - 6 will have weekly spellings to learn. These may be supported by handwriting practice sheets or by online learning.
- Occasionally, the class teacher may set stand alone tasks such as researching a topic to support learning in the wider curriculum. Such occasions will always be communicated in advance to parents.

Year Group	Reading	Spelling	X Tables	IXL Maths	IXL English
<b>Reception</b>	5 x a week.				
<b>Year 1</b>	5 x a week.	Weekly from the summer term			
<b>Year 2</b>	5 x a week.	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly (10 mins)	Weekly (10 mins)
<b>Year 3</b>	5 x a week.	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly
<b>Year 4</b>	5 x a week.	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly
<b>Year 5</b>	5 x a week.	Weekly		Weekly	Weekly
<b>Year 6</b>	5 x a week.	Weekly		Weekly (30 mins)	Weekly (30 mins)



### **Parental Support**

Parental support is essential for home learning to be worthwhile. Parents can provide this by:

- Providing the most suitable place in the home for the child to work, either alone or with an adult, as appropriate.
- Making it clear to their child that they value home learning and support the school policy.
- Encouraging their child and giving praise when home learning is completed.
- Visiting the public library and selecting fiction and non-fiction books to enjoy with their children and extend their general knowledge.
- Undertaking research projects on topics their child finds interesting.
- Playing word games.
- Practising mental maths strategies and encouraging the application of mathematical thinking in daily life.
- Using the internet for information.
- Use of board games.
- Involving family members in home learning tasks, i.e. reading

Class teachers are always willing to discuss and advise on educational activities in the home.

### **Equal Opportunities**

All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability. We plan work that is differentiated for the performance of all groups and individuals. St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to achieve their full potential.

The purpose of the home learning outlined in this policy should apply equally to pupils with special educational needs. Whilst SEN children may benefit from special tasks separate from home learning set for other children in the class, it is important that they should do as much in common with other children as possible.

Home learning for pupils with SEND should:

- have a very clear focus
- give plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed
- be varied – and not purely written assignments
- be manageable for teachers
- support the My Plans (where applicable)

### **Review**

Home learning will be reviewed annually by staff and the Headteacher, so that improvements to arrangements can be made in response to the needs of the pupils in school.

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The following is a guide to the type of home learning typical to each phase.

Phase	Home learning
Foundation	Reading books together Counting in practical situations, for example up and down stairs. Phonics Reciting nursery and counting rhymes. Identification of shapes in the environment. Fastening and unfastening buttons and zips and tying shoelaces.
Key Stage 1	Reading activities Spelling Number bonds/ multiplication tables Other literacy and maths work Finding things at home to support learning
Key Stage 2	Reading Spelling Number bonds/ multiplication tables Literacy activities Maths activities 'Talk homework' that involves discussing the focus for a future piece of writing Planning presentations Researching topics/ project work. Learning words to songs Practising calculation strategies learned in class