

St Peter's Anglican/Methodist V.C Primary School



Unlocking our potential for life - long learning

Homework Policy

School Address	Bank Road Pilning South Gloucestershire BS35 4JG
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1. Introduction

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework while developing an enjoyment of reading.

2. Rationale for homework:

Homework is an important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development.

We see homework as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one way in which children can develop the skill of independent learning.

Alongside very good teaching and learning in school, homework can play a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also 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 from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils.

No formal homework will be set for children in Reception class. Parents and carers should be supporting these children with early stage reading and playing fun developmental games. Reception class children will receive a sound book towards the end of term one with instructions of how to use it inside. Reading books will be sent home from this time and parents will be encouraged to use the reading records to communicate progress.

3. Aims and objectives:

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic development;
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- to promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to enable some aspects of the curriculum to be further explored;
- to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

4. What homework will normally be given? How will all children be included?

- a.) Reading will be expected and encouraged to happen on a daily basis, with parents signing reading records.
- b.) Spelling lists will be handed out weekly and children should learn these spellings by writing them down and applying the strategies taught in class. (Please note that spellings will not be formally tested each week).
- c.) Each child should be learning times tables (or other mental strategies appropriate to their ability) each week. The child will know the particular times table they are learning, but if they do not then parents should seek clarification from the class teacher.
- d.) Each week, either Maths or English tasks will be handed out. These tasks will reinforce learning completed in class (children will not be asked to learn a brand new skill as homework). Most children will be expected to complete a similar task, with an extension activity to stretch the more able. Some children, who may not be able to access the main homework, will be given other weekly tasks (Maths/English based) to complete or will be set tasks to help them meet their own IEP targets (parents will be individually spoken to in this case).
- e.) During some terms, topic homework may be set. This could take many different forms, from research to practical tasks. This homework will be communicated to parents/carers by the class teacher.

5. When will weekly homework be set?

The class teacher will decide upon a set day each week for homework to be handed out and a set day each week for homework to be handed in. (Example: Thursday-Tuesday). This day will remain the same throughout the school year (notification will be given if the day needs to change for any reason). Parents should expect homework on all weeks unless notified otherwise. No homework will be given on the final week before a holiday, although new topics may be shared so children can research these.

6. Amount of time to spend on homework:

These timings are for guidance only, and take account of feedback from the parental questionnaire. They do not include time for reading, learning times tables and learning spellings (these should be done for a short amount of time daily).

Weekly expectation of homework (guidance):

Year 1	20-30 mins*
Year 2	20-30 mins*
Year 3	30-40 mins*
Year 4	30-40 mins*
Year 5	40-60 mins*
Year 6	40-60 mins*

*These timings are a guide only, and indicate time expected to be spent on weekly Maths/English homework.

7. Feedback for homework

Homework will normally be completed in homework books (or on a given sheet, stuck into homework book). Feedback will consist of a brief positive comment and a next step comment (when applicable). Homework books will be marked regularly by class teachers, but it will not always be possible to provide marking before the next task is sent out.

Class teachers do understand that it is not always possible for homework to be completed. On these occasions parents/carers should communicate this to the class teacher as a note in the homework book or separately. If required, parents and carers should write any comments that would be useful to the class teacher in the book. For example noting amount of support given (if any) and difficulties encountered (if any).

This policy will be reviewed and adjusted at any point necessary to benefit the learning needs of the children in the school.

8. Reason for Re-Issue

This policy will be reviewed by the Teaching committee in line with the overall policy timetable which is biennial.

Date	Reason re-issued	Version
July 2014	New policy, first issue.	Version 07_2014

9. Policy Agreed:

Chair of Governors Date.....

Head Teacher..... Date.....

	Date
Version 07/2014	
Taken to FGB	08.03.2017
Adopted by Governing body	18.05.2017
Next Review Date	May 2019