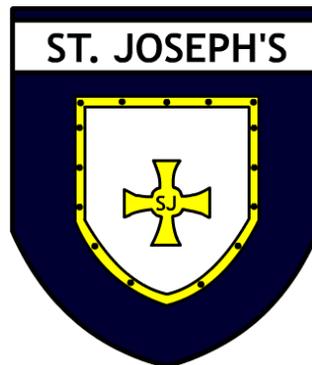


# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## HOMework POLICY



'We are all God's children  
and will try to live, love, work and  
serve as Jesus taught us.'

*Approved by the staff and Governing Body: 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017*  
*Review Date: Autumn 2020*

## **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School**

### **Homework Policy**

'We are all God's children and will try to live, love, work and serve as Jesus taught us.'

#### ***At St Joseph's we aim***

##### ***for our pupils ....***

- to promote the full potential of each child through a curriculum which develops spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth;
- to help all pupils develop lively and enquiring minds;
- to help all pupils set high personal standards of achievement

##### ***for our families ....***

- develop and strengthen links between school, parents, governors and parish communities;
- involve parents in an effective partnership with the school and their children's education.
- to establish positive links with parents through effective communication and support;
- to provide parents with the best professional advice possible.

#### ***We believe that homework plays an integral part in the learning experience of our pupils.***

##### ***Through this policy we aim to;***

- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;
- support progression towards independence and individual responsibility;
- ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account;
- ensure parents have a clear understanding about expectation from themselves and the pupil;
- improve the quality of the learning experience offered to the pupils;
- extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement, revision and research;
- provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership;
- provide opportunities for the parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences;
- encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs;
- at Year 6, to prepare children for secondary transfer.

***Please refer to guidelines for detailed information about the progression of homework throughout the school.***

## Guidelines for Homework at St Joseph's

- Parents are informed of individual year group procedures and timetable for homework at the beginning of the year and from then on in our termly class newsletters.
- Parents are treated as partners in their children's learning. If a child has been unable to complete homework due to exceptional circumstances or has struggled to understand the piece of work a note to the class teacher is much appreciated.
- Expectations of standards expected are shared with pupils
- Homework is not usually expected in the next day as we need to recognise family and out of school commitments;
- Children are aware of the consequence of not completing and handing in homework on the stated day so that a sense of fairness is shown; although sensitivity to the individual's situation is required.
- The teacher ensures that the child and parents are clear about what they need to do and they have the necessary resources at home to complete the task.
- Homework is appropriately marked or feedback is given to the child within a reasonable amount of time. It needs also to be recognised that parents appreciate feedback on how homework is assessed by the teacher or for the teacher to respond when a parental note on the homework is made. For this reason homework exercise books are of greater use than loose pieces of paper; although there may be homework tasks better suited to direct work on the sheet.
- Careful consideration needs to be paid when setting holiday homework as we need to recognise family commitments and of course the fact that our children need a break as much as we do!
- Each year group needs to be aware of the need for progression through the school and so needs to follow their year group guidelines.
- Homework policy and procedures will be regularly monitored to ensure it supports the child's learning in the best possible way.
- If class work is regularly being sent home as "finishing-off" then the teacher must consider if the task set/timing has been appropriate for that child or if the child's behaviour and concentration in class needs following up.

## Subject Guidelines

### ***The variety of learning styles should be recognised throughout homework set*** **Reading**

Regular reading is vital. For Foundation and Key Stage 1 homework should largely consist of regular reading with parents, sharing books. Reading practice and listening to others read should continue right the way through our school. This may be done in the context of homework.

## Spellings

Spellings should be relevant yet challenging.

## Literacy

Other literacy work will include practising what has been learnt in class, along with continual reinforcement of grammar and punctuation.

## Numeracy

It is recommended that, along with class reinforcement work, schools set number games and tasks, and more formal exercises for older children, that they can do at home, involving parents. The learning of times-tables is also an integral part of numeracy homework.

## RE

We recognise RE as a core subject therefore because of its importance RE should occasionally be set as homework.

## Foundation Subjects

Again in recognising that a broad and varied curriculum is essential a range of foundation subject homework should be set throughout the year.

## Independent research/study Projects

Personal studies are an excellent way to enhance independent research; a skill for life! Children continue to learn how to use the features of non-fiction books as well as to present their findings in an organised and often creative way. They also encourage parental involvement and support of their child's education.

Standards of work are in the most part high when a child is allowed to complete a project that is of a particular interest to them. Due to the effort required both in the production and marking of such studies only one a year should be set.

### Weekly Homework time- progression

|      | Reading (Daily)                        | Subject  |  | Other  |
|------|--|--|--|--|
| Yr R | 10 - 20 mins.                          | ----   | ----                                     | ----   |
| Yr 1 | 20 mins.<br>Recording on reading chart | 20 - 30 mins.<br><i>(alternate weeks Literacy/Numeracy)</i>  |  | Occasional topic homework or half term holiday project<br>Spellings- key words each week |
| Yr 2 | 20 mins.                               | 20 - 30 mins.<br><i>(alternate weeks Literacy/Numeracy)4<sup>th</sup> week Science or Topic.</i>   |  | Weekly Spellings- key words work, lists and SPAG   |
| Yr 3 | 20 mins.                               | 30 mins.<br><i>(alternate weeks Literacy/Numeracy and occasionally Science or Topic)</i>   |  | Spellings- weekly<br>Times-tables  |
| Yr 4 | 20 mins.                               | 30 - 40 mins.<br><i>(every week children choose 1 task from a sheet of literacy, numeracy, topic, Science tasks earn up to 40 points in value)</i> |  | Times-tables – weekly<br>Spellings- weekly   |
| Yr 5 | 20 mins.<br><i>Fill in book mark</i>   | 30- 45 mins.<br><i>Literacy/topic</i>  | 30 – 45 mins.<br><i>Numeracy/science</i> | Times-tables<br>Spellings - weekly   |
| Yr 6 | 20 mins.                               | 45 mins.<br><i>Literacy/topic</i>  | 45 mins.<br><i>Numeracy/science</i>      | Talk Homework – weekly<br>Spellings- weekly  |