



St. John's Gosport C of E Primary School

Homework Policy

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School Vision:

St John's Gosport C of E Primary School endeavours to provide a happy, safe, caring community rooted in Christian values; where everyone is valued and grows to their full potential.

John 10:10 – I came so that they may have life – life in all its fullness

Mission Statement:

At St John's Gosport C of E Primary School we aim to achieve our vision by providing a broad balanced curriculum and learning experiences that develop our children in body, mind and spirit; setting high standards for all, confident that we can achieve success. Thus ensuring that when our children leave us they are independent learners, who are well equipped to be responsible citizens of the future and reach their potential.

Safeguarding at St John's Gosport C of E Primary School is carried out in line with the statutory guidance in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' published by the Department for Education.

In order that children at St John's Primary School can attain the highest standard, we recognise the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership.

We believe that homework encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom as well as promoting independent learning thus encouraging the child to take great responsibility for their personal progress.

Furthermore we believe that homework should not be a chore for children or their families. Children should see it as an extension of their school work. There may be occasions when some tasks are more challenging or difficult than usual, as homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development.

Aims

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective, parents and carers, staff and the children need to understand its purpose:

- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives children the opportunity to practise what they have learnt;
- It encourages good work habits and self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning;
- It promotes independent learning and provides opportunities for individualised work;
- It encourages skills and attitudes that will set standards for life-long learning, preparing children for secondary school and future employment;
- It encourages children to share their learning with their parents and carers;
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their child's learning;
- It provides opportunities to access resources not found in school (Discovery Centre, local museums etc)

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement. We recognize that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time.'

Homework possibilities

We see homework as encompassing a wide range of possibilities, which may include activities such as:

- Reading with a parent/adult

- Learning number facts such as tables or number bonds
- Literacy activities both written or verbal, spellings, phonics
- Finishing off work from the class
- Home learning projects
- Seesaw or Google classroom activities

Other family activities are just as valuable to enhance learning such as:

- Family visit to a local museum
- Being an active member of a sports club or youth organisation
- Going swimming

Reading

We expect children to read daily (alongside the schedule that follows and attached information) and would hope that reading is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. This would include fostering early reading skills, where appropriate. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading. Children who are not reading at home will attend a 'Reading Club' during break times to catch up with their reading.

Maths

Maths is all around us and there are many opportunities to engage children in mathematical activities at home such as counting, looking at patterns, water play etc These sort of activities are particularly valuable in the early years and KS1. Maths tasks may include learning number facts or table facts. From Year 1 children need to learn their number bonds to 10 and 20 ($0+10=10$, $1+9=10$, $2+8=10$... $0+20=20$, $1+19=20$, $2+18=20$ etc) as well as begin to learn to count in twos and fives. These form the basis of their facts and related facts, which are crucial as children move through KS2 and begin to form connections using these facts. Children must know all of their tables by the end of Year 4 and should practise these as much as possible.

Other online platforms include:

- TT rockstars
- Oak National Academy lessons

English

As well as reading daily, children will be set words and spellings linked to their phonics and/or grammar rules that they have learned in class. Children in KS2 may also be given handwriting, comprehension and grammar homework.

Other online platforms include:

- Spelling Shed
- Oxford Owl (Online reading books)
- Epic

Home Learning Projects

As part of our enquiry curriculum children may be asked to complete a home learning project. These projects will be linked to the class learning theme. We believe these projects are a great opportunity for parents and carers to work alongside their child, enhancing their learning experience. They may provide an opportunity for families to visit the local library or local museums to find out more about a subject or about local history. We encourage children to present their work in different formats such as PP presentation, mood boards, posters, booklets and pamphlets.

Homework Schedules

Homework is given on a regular basis across the school following the schedule below. From time to time, homework may vary in response to a particular activity such as an educational visit. Homework content may be set as a written piece of homework or may include reading, games and activities to reinforce English, Maths or other skills. For older children homework may include completing work set, finding out information, preparing a presentation, designing and/or making something, trying out a simple scientific experiment and solving problems. As with all work set, homework is monitored and results are recorded. Year group teachers will clarify homework expectations in the half termly curriculum letters.

Year Group	Guideline Amount	Tasks/Activities/Subject Areas: Our expectations are that:
Year R		Children will read daily. A Maths task, sound and/or word work will be set. This should be worked on for a few minutes each evening
Yr 1	1 hour weekly	Children will read daily. Children will complete an English and Maths task/game/activity every week. Time spent on homework should be up to 10 minutes each evening
Yr 2	1 hour weekly	Children will read daily. Children will complete an English and Maths task/game/activity every week. Occasionally they may

		complete a relevant themed task. Time spent on homework should be up to 15 minutes each evening
Yr 3	1 ½ weekly	Children will read daily. Children will complete an English and Maths task/game/activity every week. Home learning projects, linked to class themes, will be set for completion over a half term. Time spent on homework should be up to 20 minutes each evening
Yr 4	1 ½ weekly	Children will read daily. Children will complete an English and Maths task/game/activity every week. Home learning projects, linked to class themes, will be set for completion over a half term. Time spent on homework should be up to 20 minutes each evening
Yr 5	25 minutes daily	Children will read daily. Children will complete an English and Maths task/game/activity every week. Home learning projects, linked to class themes, will be set for completion over a half term. Time spent on homework should be up to 25 minutes each evening
Yr 6	30 minutes daily	Children will read daily. Children will complete an English and Maths task/game/activity every week. Home learning projects, linked to class themes, will be set for completion over a half term. Time spent on homework should be up to 30 minutes each

The gradual increase allows children to develop their skills and independence in completing homework and ensures that they are ready for the expectation of 45 to 90 minutes daily in Years 7 and 8.

Responsibilities

It is our expectation that homework will be completed carefully and returned on time. The class teacher will set the days for when the homework is given out and returned.

Teachers will offer opportunities through the week to provide support for children to help them with any homework that is confusing or difficult for children to complete. Where homework is frequently missing or not completed, late or of poor quality, the children's parents or carers will be contacted by the class teacher. Class teachers will co-operate closely in their Key Stages to ensure that similar content and expectations between classes is in place. If children don't complete their homework, they will complete it in school.

The Headteacher will:

- Promote the school homework policy to staff, parents and pupils
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy

The teacher will:

- Set regular homework activities which will include both practical and written tasks
- Provide adequate and appropriate feedback to pupils through praise and encouragement.
- Not be expected to mark all homework. Often it will be marked as a class.
- Set high expectation of pupils in completing homework.

Parents and Carers should support their children by:

- Providing a suitable place where your child can do their home learning, somewhere reasonably peaceful, with supervision if appropriate
- Make it clear to your child that you value home learning, and support the school in explaining how it can help raise attainment
- Ensure and check that tasks are completed on time and to a suitable standard
- Being actively involved in joint homework activities with the children
- Contact the children's class teacher if they have any questions or contact the headteacher if they have queries of a general nature regarding homework. If parents wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, parents should contact the governing body

Pupils should:

- Do their best to complete tasks as instructed
- Present their homework at the same high standard as they would for their classroom learning with neat, joined handwriting or clear, neat number work.
- Ask for help as appropriate
- Gain increase motivation and enjoyment through home learning.

Home learning should benefit teacher, pupils and parents by providing support and information to enable pupils to build confidence and make progress.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the homework policy is efficiently and effectively implemented within their class. This will be monitored by the Deputy Headteacher in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

Inclusion

All children will have access to homework that is relevant to their current stage of learning.

Equal Opportunities

All children are provided with equal access to homework. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity or home background.