



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Knaresborough

Homework Policy

**“With Christ at the centre, we show
Unity, Respect, Joy, Love and Courage.”**

St Mary's School Mission Statement

Policy review date- Summer 2022
Person Responsible- Helen Tomlinson
Ratified by Academy Council- Summer 2022
Review date- Summer 2023

Rationale

At St Mary's we believe that effective education requires a partnership between school and parents. We believe children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Homework is an important way of establishing and developing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. We believe also that homework is one of the ways in which children can also acquire the skill of independent learning.

We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Whilst homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations. We are aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

Purpose of Homework

We believe that a strong partnership between school and home is at the heart of successful education.

Regular, well-planned homework can:

- Develop an effective partnership between home and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school.
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Maths.
- Exploit the resources for learning at home.
- Extend school based learning.
- Encourage children as they grow older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.

Types of Homework

- Reading.
- Weekly spellings.
- Access to online platforms – Active Learn, Numbots, Times Table Rock Stars.
- Creative Curriculum projects
- Mental Maths books

The Role of School

Each class teacher will:

- Ensure homework is manageable for children and parents.
- Ensure homework tasks are meaningful and linked to current class based work.
- Ensure homework meets the individual needs of the children.

The Role of Parents

Parents and carers are encouraged to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which children can do their homework.
- Make it clear to children that they value homework and support the school in how it can help their learning.
- Encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework.
- Contact the class teacher if they are unsure of homework expectations.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

Homework is set for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Equal Opportunities

All teaching and support staff at St Mary's Catholic Primary School are responsible for ensuring that all pupils, irrespective of gender, ability, ethnic origin and social circumstances, have access to the whole curriculum and make the greatest possible progress. All children have equal access to homework.