

Homework Policy Revised November 2024  
**ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
a part of  
**St Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy Trust**

**Policy for Homework**

*'Learn, love and respect through Jesus.'*

*This policy should be read in conjunction with our other policies (Teaching and Learning, SEN)*

**1 Introduction:**

- 1.1** Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities to support children's learning. At St. Thomas', we consider that homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. Homework is an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers, pupils and parents.

**2 Aims:**

- 2.1** To support, extend, consolidate and practise skills and knowledge learned in the classroom. It should encourage children to develop independence and organisational skills, which are essential skills for life.

**3 Objectives:**

- 3.1** At St Thomas of Canterbury we regard homework as an opportunity to:
- enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
  - help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
  - promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning
  - consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons
  - help children develop good work habits for the future

**4 Organisation:**

- 4.1** Homework can be given in the form of:

- reading
- phonics and words to blend
- multiplication tables
- spellings
- consolidation activities e.g. for maths or English
- research (including using the internet)
- collection of evidence
- handwriting
- supporting intervention strategies (Wave 2 and Wave 3)
- learning words for assemblies, presentations and performances

- 4.2** Homework is recorded in different ways as directed by staff. We also have online platforms to support home/school communication and to facilitate the uploading of homework. (Tapestry and SeeSaw)

**5 Pupils with Learning Difficulties, Disabilities / Most Able and Talented:**

**5.1** Homework is differentiated to support individual needs. (See SEN Policy / Most Able and Talented Policy)

**6 The role of parents:**

**6.1** Parents have an important role to play in their child's education, and homework is a crucial part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. If the children have any difficulties, they are encouraged to inform the class teacher as soon as possible so that assistance can be given. We invite parents to help their children as necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, providing appropriate (controlled) access to a computer/internet for research etc. and by discussing the work that their child is doing. We ask parents to check Seesaw/Tapestry for notes, messages and resources. We ask parents to encourage their child to talk to their teachers in the event of problems being experienced with homework.

**7 The Senior Leadership team will:**

- Review the policy regularly
- Ensure the policy is enforced by monitoring planning and work samples
- Offer support where necessary to staff and parents
- Monitor progress and homework diaries

This policy has been reviewed by staff and ratified of the Local Governing Body at their meeting: **3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024**

**APPENDIX 1**

**GENERAL HOMEWORK GUIDE**

- Nursery:** **Term 1 (Autumn)** - Sharing a library book each week and a nursery rhyme  
**Term 2 (Spring)** - Sharing a library book each week and a story sack  
**Term 3 (Summer)** - Sharing a library book each week and an individual reading book (picture book)
- Reception:** **Autumn Term**  
Sharing a library book each week and a phonics homework activity (4 new sounds per week), words to decode each week. When the children are ready they will be given an individual decodable reading book from our Little Wandle Scheme  
**Spring Term**  
Individual decodable reading book, phonics homework.  
**Summer Term**  
Individual reading books for pupils. Weekly spellings and after half term weekly Numeracy activities.
- Year One:** Reading with an adult each night  
Spellings weekly  
Maths activity each week (multiplication tables will be given in the Spring / Summer Term)  
English activity
- Year Two:** Reading with an adult each night  
Spellings weekly  
Maths activity weekly (to include multiplication tables practice)  
English activity weekly
- Year Three:** Reading with an adult at least 3 times a week  
Spellings weekly  
Maths activity weekly (to include multiplication tables practice)  
English activity weekly  
Project work depending on theme.
- Year Four:** To encourage development as an independent reader (to include reading with an Adult at least 3 times a week)  
Spellings weekly  
Tables weekly  
Maths activity weekly  
English activity weekly  
Project work depending on theme.
- Year Five:** To encourage development as an independent reader (to include reading with an Adult at least once a week)  
Spellings weekly  
Tables as necessary  
Maths activity weekly  
English activity weekly  
Project work depending on theme.
- Year Six:** Independent reading  
Spellings weekly  
Tables as necessary  
Maths activity weekly  
English activity weekly  
Project work depending on theme.  
Revision tasks for SATs as appropriate

**Work will be differentiated according to ability as required.**

In Key Stage 2, Homework may be substituted by alternative activities in other subjects, particularly in R.E. Science, History, Geography and P.S.H.E.

At the beginning of each term teachers send out a curriculum letter in which homework expectations are outlined in more detail.

A meeting will be held for parents each year in order to discuss best approaches to project type work. Children will be introduced to this in Year 3 and skills gradually introduced to aid them in becoming independent researchers by the time they move on to secondary school.