

St John Bosco RC Primary School

With Jesus in our hearts, we love, pray, learn and play.



Homework Policy September 2022

We believe that education is a life-long process. A child's education does not cease when he /she leaves our school premises, learning at home is an essential part of good education. "Homework" is any work or activity completed outside lesson time, either alone, with parents, or others and homework make an important contribution to progress at school.

At St John Bosco Primary School, we are committed to high quality teaching and learning to raise standards of achievement for all children. All teachers and governors have been consulted in developing this policy, which summarises expectations for homework. Learning is the purpose of the whole school and is a shared commitment. We recognise the importance of parents as the first educators of their children.

Children have a right to an education (Article 28 UNCRC) and a right to be the best they can be (Article 29 UNCRC)

We see the purpose of homework as being to:

- to involve parents in their children's learning;
- to help parents keep abreast of what their child can and cannot do;
- to take advantage of the home context to apply learning;
- to encourage children to talk about their work to their parents and explain what they are doing and how;
- to extend the time for learning, thus enabling children to practise and consolidate their skills and knowledge and strategies;
- to prepare children for secondary school experiences of homework;
- to view learning as a life-long process and not just restricted to school hours.

In the Early Years simple games, counting and reading with parents provides valuable opportunities for the practice/reinforcement of key skills in a supportive environment.

As children get older they need to develop the habit of regularly devoting short periods of time to personal study. All children given the opportunity to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

The school's agreed practice for homework is that:

- homework is set on a regular basis, for all years, in line with our homework policy;
- homework will generally follow on from work which has taken place in class but may take many different forms, including reading, learning multiplication facts and spellings.
- homework may sometimes consist of preparation for work yet to be done;
- homework should sometimes involve the participation of the parents;

- children who have made insufficient effort during class time may occasionally be asked to complete work at home.

In Early Years the focus is on reading and phonics. The emphasis of all other homework activities is on the development of skills of English and Maths. From time to time children may bring home a piece of work they have missed through absence, or for further reinforcement.

Homework at St John Bosco falls into two domains: “Core/Essential” and “Additional.”

Core / Essential	
Reading at home daily - Everyone	Parents are to sign their child’s reading record to confirm this has taken place. This is monitored in school. Children with less than 3 adult signatures in their reading record each week will have extra reading time during break.
Learn weekly spellings – Y1-6	A paper copy of spellings will be given out on Monday. The children will also have a quiz set on Purple Mash. The children will be tested weekly and the scores will be written into children’s reading records.
Practice times tables – Y3-6	These will be tested weekly and the scores will be written into the children’s reading records.
Online homework Y5 and Y6	Children will be set weekly tasks on SATs companion.

Children who do not complete core / essential homework will be asked to miss a playtime to catch up on the missed reading / learning.

Additional	
Y1 – 4	<p>Homework sheet – Maths and English. See Appendix A</p> <p>Non completion of “additional” homework is not going to be monitored or sanctioned.</p> <p>Children who submit their “additional” homework every week for a whole term will be rewarded with an own clothes day.</p> <p>Children who don’t complete their additional homework at home, will be given the opportunity to do their additional homework at lunchtime if they want to work towards the own clothes reward.</p>

Please note: Homework tasks will vary according to the needs of classes and individual children.

The school pays a subscription to the Purple Mash website. In addition to the homework outlined above all children have their own username and password to access the Purple Mash games to support maths, English and other areas of the curriculum. Please encourage your child to use it as often as possible.

How staff support this policy:

- By providing a range of homework tasks and activities.
- By ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability

How parents /carers can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets
- Provide a suitable place equipped with a clear table space, chair and good light
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework completed
- Be actively involved in the homework (particularly of younger children)
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by a comment in a reading record. We would also be interested in hearing how well the children completed other activities, whether they were interesting / too easy / too hard, etc

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.

Homework and Wellbeing

The wellbeing and mental health of our school community is paramount and as such our policy supports mental wellbeing connected to homework in the following ways:

For families:

- Homework is set once per week on Mondays.
- Non completion of “additional” homework is not going to be sanctioned. Children who submit their “additional” homework every week for a whole term will be rewarded with an own clothes day.
- Children who don’t complete their additional homework at home, will be given the opportunity to do their additional homework at lunchtime if they want to work towards the own clothes reward.

For staff:

- Additional homework will not be formally marked and returned to children. Sample monitoring will take place each week to ensure good quality work is being submitted. Feedback to children will take the form of class discussion.

The purpose of this policy is:

- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the pupils.
- To extend and support learning.
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.

British Values

At St John Bosco School, we value the diversity of backgrounds of all pupils, families and the wider school community.

We uphold the following definition of British Values:

- Respect for democracy and support or participation in the democratic process
- Respect for the basis on which the law is made and applies in England
- Support for equality of opportunity for all
- Support and respect for the liberties of all within the law
- Respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious and other beliefs

Our school reflects British values in all that we do. We aim to nurture our children on their journey through life so they can grow into safe, caring, democratic, responsible and tolerant adults who make a positive difference to British society and to the world. We encourage our children to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world.

Equality

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil or member of our school community and it helps to promote equality at this school.

Monitoring and Review:

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years or earlier should the need arise.

Agreed by the Governing Body: September 2022

Review date: September 2025

Appendix A: Example of additional homework for Y1-4

Children are to complete the homework on the reverse of the sheet and return it to school.

Name: _____

Y4 Aut1 wk1 homework


Last week - English

Write 2 sentences that include an adverbial phrase (a phrase not an adverb). Here is an example.

Mr Ali started dancing **as soon as his favourite Justin Bieber song started playing.**

Next week - English

Write 2 sentences using different conjunctions. Here are a list of conjunctions you can use.



This week - English

Re-write these sentences with the apostrophe for possession in the correct place (remember the difference between singular and plural possession).

- 1) The lamps bulb is not working.
- 2) All of the lamps bulbs are not working.
- 3) The teachers chocolate bar has gone missing.
- 4) The teachers classrooms are a mess.


Last week - Maths

Write the following times in 12-hour and 24-hour.

- 1) Twenty minutes past three at night
- 2) Quarter past two in the afternoon
- 3) Ten minutes to seven in the evening

Next week - Maths

Write down all the properties of the following shape. The first one has been done for you.



Square. Four equal sides. Four corners. All angles the same. Four right angles. Regular as all the sides and angles are the same.

This week - Maths

Use the short multiplication method to complete these calculations.

- 1) $35 \times 4 =$
- 2) $72 \times 3 =$
- 3) $63 \times 7 =$