

**Date of policy: Autumn Term 2019**  
**Review date: Autumn Term 2022**

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

“Well organised homework can play a vital role in raising standards of achievement.”  
DFE

This policy was developed after consultation with parents, staff and pupils.

### **Aims**

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding of St Mary's expectation for homework.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

### **Purpose of homework**

- To consolidate and extend the work done in school.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To help parents gain a better understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To promote independent learning.

### **Home Reading**

Reading on a regular basis is vital for children in all year groups. Please record your child's reading in their diary and make sure that they have their book and diary in school every day.

The diaries are checked and stamped weekly. In Key Stage 2, children who have not read during the week will complete their reading at other times during the school day, which may include breaks or lunchtimes.

In KS1, children will bring home a text from our 'home reading' library. These books will be colour coded, based on phonetic understanding and level of comprehension.

In KS2, children are tested on the Accelerated Reader program termly. Here they will complete a 'Star Reader' test and the results of this will give children a ZPD range (Zone of Proximal Development) matched to their reading age. Children will select texts to take home within this ZPD range that are appropriate for their own reading ability.



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### **HOMEWORK POLICY** (continued)

#### **Reading Book Changes**

In Rec, books are changed once per week.

In Y1 and Y2, books are changed once per week. Children will choose their own book with help from their class TA.

In Y3 to Y6, books can be changed as necessary. In KS2, the children are responsible for making sure that reading books and diaries are taken into class each day and changing them by following the class rules. Once a reading book has been completed, children take a quiz on accelerated reader to assess their understanding of the book.

The more your child reads, the better progress they will make.

#### **Homework Schedule**

Reception	Reading each night - child to adult / adult to child Tricky words and new sounds to learn as part of 'Letters and Sounds' phonics work
Year One Two	Reading a minimum three times a week with a signature of a parent/guardian in the diary as evidence. Range of spellings linked to 'Letters and Sounds' or 'Y2 Spelling' lessons, fortnightly. An additional maths, reading or SPaG activity sheet will also be sent home fortnightly. Homework in KS1 is optional.
Year Three Four	Reading a minimum three times a week with a signature of a parent/guardian in the diary as evidence. Compulsory times table practice every week. The children will do this by using the online programme Times Table Rock Stars to practise the times table that they are up to which will have been set by the teacher. Their times tables are then tested three times a week. Spellings are given out weekly for a test every Monday. Any other subject related homework is optional.
Year Five Six	Reading a minimum three times a week with a signature of a parent/guardian in the diary as evidence. Compulsory times table practice every week. The children will do this by using the online programme Times Table Rock Stars to practise the times table that they are up to which will have been set by the teacher. Their times tables are then tested three times a week. Spellings are given out weekly for a test every Monday

All homework given out in Year 6 is compulsory. Other subject related homework given out in Year 5 is optional.
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### **HOMEWORK POLICY** (continued)

#### **Responsibilities**

Children in KS2 will have **one week** to complete homework from the day it is given. (Y5/6 research projects may have longer deadlines dates set by the class teacher). Children in KS1 may bring homework in at any time, once it is completed.

Homework support is offered at lunchtime for children who are experiencing difficulties or have a query. You are encouraged to contact school to discuss particular problems with homework.

Children who don't get at least 7/10 on their spellings in Year 3-6 will have to be retested which may be in break times or lunch times.

Children in Year 6 who do not complete homework will stay in at break or lunch to catch up.

#### **Inclusion**

All children will have access to homework that is appropriate and suited to their ability.

#### **Marking**

All homework will be collected weekly and marked by the classteacher, teaching assistant or alongside the children.

#### **General**

If children are absent due to illness, we will not send homework home.

If children are absent for a length of time for other reasons e.g. after an operation, the classteacher will work with you to agree what work should be done.

It is not possible to give homework when children are on holiday in term time.

Please contact Mrs Talbot if you wish to discuss this policy.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors

Date \_\_\_\_\_