



Join the faith and learning journey



St Antony's RC Primary School

Homework Policy

Mission Statement

St. Antony's School is part of the Roman Catholic community of the Holy Family, where Jesus Christ is our inspiration as we raise standards and aspirations for all of our children.

INCLUSION STATEMENT

In this school, we are educating our children to:

- know who they are - a special and unique gift from God
- know why they are here - we all have a purpose and responsibility to look after God's world
- work hard and aim high for their future- find and use their God given talents to be what God intended them to be.

We are a Catholic community, in a modern society, where everyone is equal. The most loving and merciful Jesus Christ is our role model, and He welcomed everyone. All children are welcome in our school, and they and their families become part of our St. Antony's family. We will love and nurture them, and do our best to help them, on their faith and learning journeys, to become what God wants them to be.

Adopted by Governors:(signed on hard copy)

Date:

Review date:.....January 2025.....

POLICY INTENT

The Intent of our curriculum is for our children to be self-motivated in their studies and have an intrinsic love of learning. We want them to enjoy the acquisition of knowledge.

Working with parents, we intend that our pupils leave St Antony's as motivated learners who understand that success comes through hard work and determination. We want them to know that they hold the key to their own success and must stay driven in their faith and learning journey.

We want them to have personal goals, a healthy and positive mindset and understand the learning strategies that are most effective for them. We want them to be academically and emotionally ready for the next stage of their educational journey.

Colossians 3:23-24

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

AIMS

Prior to 2012, the government recommended primary homework as follows: 1 hour per week for KS1 pupils and half an hour per evening for KS2 pupils. Schools now have the freedom to choose. The Education Endowment Foundation has extensively researched homework and it is found that children who do complete homework are more successful in school. In addition, parents can have a positive effect on helping children to develop good learning habits. Research has also found that tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught, and which are built upon in school are most effective.

With this in mind we aim to provide homework that is:

- linked to work in school
- will be followed up by the teacher
- supports learning by consolidation and practice
- simple and fun to complete at home; some independently, some with parents

We expect all parents to support their children in their homework as per the home-school agreement.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS POLICY

SUBJECT LEADER ROLE

The subject leader for Homework is Heather McGowan

The subject leaders are responsible for the day to day management of resources, keeping up to date in curriculum innovation, sharing good practice with staff and ensuring that planning for the subject is progressive and in line with national expectations.

Subject leaders are the 'expert' in school and can offer support to other staff including signposting where necessary.

Together with the Headteacher and Governors, they are involved in the monitoring, review and evaluation of their subject both as a standalone and as part of the wider curriculum.

RESOURCES USED

Google Classroom

Class dojo

Read write Inc: Spellings

Maestro Curriculum

Learning by Questions

TT Rockstars

Oxford Owl

IDL

Little Wandle (N- Y2) and Oxford Reading Tree schemes

Accelerated Reader texts (Y4 up)

PROGRESSION THROUGH THE STAGES

We expect all children from Nursery to Year 6 to take part in home learning. This will consolidate and reinforce their learning in school and help them to become independent and self-motivated.

READING IS ALWAYS SET FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL

All children in school are expected to read on a daily basis, from 10 minutes a day in the youngest classes to at least 20 minutes or more in UKS2. Parents are expected to comment in home reading records so that we know a book is ready to be changed. This carries on until your child is able to take part in our Accelerated reader programme. Parents will have access to login to their child's quiz results and are able to comment in reading records about any home reading concerns or celebrations.

Nursery children will take home activities which support their development when they are ready. This may include a counting or sounds game; a paper based mark making activity; a storyboard to retell or an on line activity to try. Nursery children will take home picture story books to develop their emerging reading skills.

In **Reception** class the focus for home learning is on phonics and reading. Parents are expected to establish a daily routine of sharing a book at home as reading is the key to the rest of the curriculum. Weekly activities to support learning will be shared on class dojo. Work completed can be uploaded to dojo portfolios.

From **Year 1 to Year 6** regular weekly homework will be set.

HALF TERMLY GRIDS

A **parent grid** will be shared on the school website and also linked on class DOJO. Paper copies are available on request. This shows the curriculum coverage for the term aligned with activities that aim to be fun and give opportunities for parents and children to discuss learning together. Activities can be recorded in a homework book or uploaded to on line portfolios on Class dojo or Google classroom activities.

WEEKLY

Teachers will set regular weekly activities which will include:

Spellings or phonics which will be tested in class through dictation;

a ***learning by questions*** quiz which will test knowledge of previously taught work, be a reading comprehension or a maths quiz;

Written practice tasks in reading comprehension, grammar, handwriting or number work may be set by individual teachers in place of or in addition to the above;

Parents will also have access to the half termly grid of activities which support all areas of learning and include fun practical ways to consolidate learning with your child.

PLANNING AND SEQUENCING LEARNING

Homework will always be set according to what is currently being taught in class; or has been previously taught.

Parents will not be expected to teach anything new.

At St Antony's we advise that homework is a supportive activity that complements learning in school. If your child is struggling with homework, please see your child's class teacher. Homework should always be a relatively pleasant experience. Please do

not continue with tasks if your child is distressed, please ask a member of staff for support.

We want learning at home to help your child to **KNOW AND REMEMBER MORE**.

From KS1 your child will regularly be quizzed about key conceptual facts that they should know and remember in order to build good long term memory knowledge that builds over time. These facts are on your child's KARM cards which will be available through dojo or the class page on the school website.

Each half term, children will complete quick quiz assessments to test how much they remember over time. You can help them to achieve well in these tests across all subjects by helping them to revise for their quizzes and memorise their key facts.

OUR EXPECTATIONS FROM HOME

CLASS	DAILY	WEEKLY	TERMLY	Termly Assessments
Nursery	Practice talking in sentences, doing up coats, going to the loo independently, brushing teeth, sharing books. Ensure home language conversations are frequent to build first language vocabulary.	For example- Counting, recognising sounds, naming objects, mark making, physical balancing and climbing, a game from school or an online activity.	Practice vocabulary by talking about topics and stories from school. Visit an educational place of interest such as a park, new town or museum.	Termly- Wellcom and phonics assessments- you can ask your teacher about these.
Reception	10 mins daily repeated reading of familiar books, speaking in full sentences.	Activities set on class dojo. Phonics	Parent grid activities to support learning in school (on website) These can be completed on line and uploaded to dojo portfolios (EYFS and KS1) or google classroom (KS2) Homework books can be a	Wellcom and phonics assessments
Year 1	10 mins reading 5 mins orally counting in 1s, 2s and 10s or practising Number bonds to 10 and 20.	Phonics/ spellings 1X piece set by teacher		Reading (PIRA) Maths (PUMA)
Year 2	10 mins reading 5 minutes counting practice	Phonics/ spellings 1X LBQ		Quizzes on key facts from the Karm cards –

	as above	1X piece set by teacher	written alternative.	all subjects (see class pages on website)
Year 3	15 mins reading 5 mins timestables/TTRS	Spellings 1X LBQ 1X piece set by teacher	In addition, from Year 1, parents should support their child to learn and explain the 'Key facts' from subject KARM cards. Quizzes will take place to assess pupils' ability and knowledge in all subjects!	Accelerated Reader assessment from Y4
Year 4	15 mins reading 5 mins timetables/ TTRS	Spellings 1 X LBQ 1 X TTRS target 1X piece set by teacher		
Year 5	20 mins reading	Spellings 1 X LBQ 1 X Maths 1X English		
Year 6	20 mins reading	Spellings 1X LBQ 1 X Grammar 1 X Maths 1 X comprehension		In addition, Y6 will sit previous SATs papers to practise and prepare so it's not a shock on the day!

EQUALITY

All pupils at St Antony's will be protected against discrimination according to the protected characteristics of the Equality Act. We aim to serve our community as our pupils deserve the best learning experiences.

Homework will reflect the following characteristics:

Gender

SEND

Race

Religion

Different families

Children with SEND needs will have appropriate homework set for them where necessary.

Pupil premium funding is also used to support learning at home.

ENRICHMENT AND MASTERY

Through the parent grids, activities will be set where children will apply and extend their knowledge and vocabulary. Open ended activities allow for freedom and creativity.

EXPERIENCES THROUGH THE CURRICULUM

Places of interest to visit and on line websites or practical activities will be suggested to enhance homework time. We always encourage parents to complement work in school with visits to places of interest. Outdoor work shared through photographs or video is always welcome.

HOME SCHOOL LINKS

We expect parents to support their child's learning by ensuring a calm and purposeful environment for homework at home. A quiet time at the kitchen table, or a study space in a child's room would be ideal. Set the scene for homework as a priority; ensure that siblings do not disturb them and that a drink or snack is offered beforehand as no one can concentrate well if hungry! A sharp pencil or pen, a ruler and a few crayons are all a child needs to get going. Be on hand to support if necessary and avoid noise such as chatting or TV in the background if at all possible.

Homework club will be available for KS2 children who do not have internet access at home. This includes access to laptops at lunchtime.

In addition, we will endeavour to run regular workshops for parents throughout the year. These will include phonics and early reading, handwriting techniques, calculation methods and various subject workshops where work will be shared with parents and carers.

Rewards for good work ethic and self-motivation in homework will be given and shared with parents through 'Homework Heroes'. These will be awarded in Gold Book celebration awards.

MEASURING THE IMPACT OF OUR POLICY

RECORD KEEPING AND ASSESSMENT

Records of progress will be kept through Target Tracker and Learning by Questions software. This will inform teachers in the planning of next steps. Home reading records are also kept.

MONITORING, REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Parent questionnaires will be used and parents are encouraged to comment on tasks set through dojo or email. Class teachers will monitor the completion of homework and review the value on a termly basis. SLT will also use pupil voice and formative assessment to inform evaluation. Positive pupil progress is always the priority.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

As technology progresses, staff will have training as necessary to ensure they use the most efficient practices for homework. Staff will be kept abreast of recent relevant research and development about the benefits of homework.

GOVERNORS INVOLVEMENT

The link Governor for Homework is Mike O'Brien.

Subject leaders prepare bids for the finance committee; these are linked to school priorities. Subject leaders are asked to present their work to governors. This may be done in the form of a presentation to a committee or a professional dialogue with a link governor. Action plans are shared with Governors. There is a formal written report to governors annually. Link governors may come into school to watch lessons and take part in events or workshops. They may talk to pupils and look at written evidence.

CONCLUSION

We aim to give St. Antony's children the best possible start to their school lives and beyond. We want homework that complements our curriculum in school and fosters lifelong great attitudes to learning.

Reviewed by staff December 2023. Adjustments agreed by staff and Governors January 2024.

This policy will be reviewed annually.