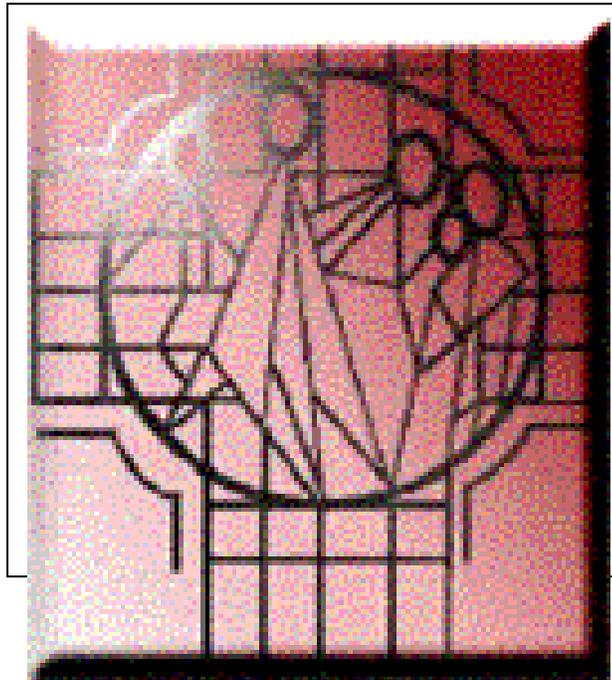


# ALL SAINTS' C.E. (A) FIRST SCHOOL



## HOMework POLICY

**“Learning at home is an essential part of the good education to which our children are entitled. It is not just about reinforcing learning in the classroom, although that is important. A good, well organised homework programme helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful independent lifelong learning. Homework supports the development of independent learning skills, so enquiry and investigation are seen as part of the learning process. Given the increasing importance to everyone of flexibility and the ability to learn independently, developing skills and attitudes must be a central aim for all schools”.**

In any school, to be effective homework needs to be part of a wider partnership between parents and school. We need to be able to count on parents' support for our aims and aim to create and maintain parents' commitment to homework. Parents need to be able to rely on school to plan and manage an effective homework programme. With this in mind, we have drawn up a homework policy which will give guidance to teachers, parents and pupils so that everyone is completely clear what is expected of them in the way of homework on a weekly basis and how it should be organised and managed.

Through this policy we aim to:

- Set out our rationale about the purpose of homework
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout school
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- Ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account
- Ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupil
- Extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Improve the quality of learning experience offered to pupils.

#### **WHY HAVE HOMEWORK?**

Research has shown that there is enormous advantage in children spending regular periods of time, initially quite short, on different learning activities devised by schools as part of a homework programme, which supports the work they do in class. Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

#### **PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK**

At All Saints' we believe the purposes of homework to be as follows:-

- Developing an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school.
- Consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy;
- Extending school learning, for example through additional reading, spellings each week and number multiplication and facts.
- Encouraging pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of their next school.
- By working together we can ensure that our children are equipped with the discipline and understanding they need to continue learning throughout their adult lives.

**THE TYPE AND AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK – AS FROM September 2017**

	<b>RECOMMENDED TIME ALLOCATION FOR HOMEWORK</b>	<b>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</b>
<b>Foundation Stage Early/Years</b>	Approximately 20-30 minutes per week	Library Book Jigsaws Matching games Colour recognition Speaking & listening Alphabet games Number games Sharing a book Sound and word recognition learning Phonic awareness Maths number recognition and number formation Matching and sorting games. Reading Book at least three times per week. Partnership Projects at the end of each term.
<b>Key Stage 1/2</b>	Approximately 1 ½ hour/week	Reading Book at least three times per week. Sound and word recognition (where necessary) Key spelling/reading words (Number of spelling and reading words will be based upon child's age and ability.) Mental Maths (e.g. times tables, number bonds etc) Occasionally, practical or research work in Science or other subjects to expand on or prepare for work in class. Partnership Projects at the end of each term.

One of the key messages for parents and carers is that all primary school age children should either read to their parents or carers or, if they are fluent readers, be supported and encouraged to read on their own for at least 10 to 20 minutes a day.

In addition to the regular activities older children may be given tasks to:

- Find out/research information
- Reading in preparation for lessons
- Preparing oral presentations (eg prepare a talk on a book to give to class)
- More traditional written assignments

Usually homework will be sent home on a Friday and will be expected to be completed and returned by the following Wednesday.

### **HOLIDAY HOMEWORK**

Through school the children will be set PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS. These are set by the class teacher to be completed during the Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays. The idea of the Partnership Projects is for the children to work with their parent/carers on a joint task based around the class topic and then brought into school to be shared with the class.

### **HOMEWORK SUPPORT**

We advocate that homework need not, and should not get in the way of other activities, which your child/children may do after school.

The role of the parents and carers in supporting pupils:

It would be helpful if you could:-

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework – alone or, more often for younger children together with an adult;
- Make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning;
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

Parents are expected to sign their child's homework each week, and ensure that it is returned to school.

Teachers are also expected to review homework, and sign it to show parents that this has been done. They will also set homework regularly.

Children are expected to do their homework each week.