

**Kirkland and Catterall St Helen's
Church of England Primary School**

Homework Policy

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Homework is always an issue that divides opinion – some people believe there should be lots, some believe there should be none and many believe many different levels in between.

At Kirkland, we believe we adopt a sensible approach to homework rooted in supporting the children's learning in school and their transition to high school as children reach upper Key Stage 2. We believe effective working partnerships between home and school are crucial in allowing every child in our school the very best lifetime opportunities.

What are the aims of this policy?

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding homework expectations

What is the purpose of homework?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully implemented and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To mark and give feedback about homework.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions and resources for the child to complete the homework.

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.

Expectations for all children

READING:

Reading is encouraged on a daily basis at home (10-20 mins/day) and is not just restricted to the school reading scheme. Reading together with an adult is vital to develop a child's understanding and enjoyment of reading especially in EYFS and Key Stage 1. Children should also read a range of other materials such as newspapers, comics, leaflets, poems etc. As children become independent readers, it is not necessary for them to be reading out loud to an adult as we want them to be engrossed in the book that they are reading. Instead an adult can support their reading by encouraging them to read and discussing the book with the child – in particular helping them to decipher unknown words and their meanings.

At Kirkland, we expect every child to read at least 3 times a week and for this to be acknowledged by a parent/carer signature in the child's reading record book. Children in Key Stage 2 are responsible for filling in their reading record and making sure it is in school.

Reading books will be changed when required within school.

SPELLINGS

Each week, children will receive spellings to learn at home. The number and complexity of spellings will vary from child to child and class to class. Children will be assessed on these spellings.

MATHS

In Key Stage 1 it is important that children learn their number bonds and times tables in order to develop their fluency in maths. By the end of Y4 it is expected that children will know all of their times tables fluently. These key number facts require lots and lots of repeated practice and recall which is something that can be incorporated into daily routines at home. Teachers will indicate which times tables children are working on. A weekly maths task relating to work covered in class may be set by teachers in addition to times tables/number bonds work.

OTHER

Teachers will set an activity/project related to the learning taking place in the classroom. This will often link to our themed curriculum and can be weekly or half termly. Work could be linked to any other curriculum area such as science, geography, history and so on. It could take many forms e.g. preparing a talk, completing a piece of research or conducting an interview. The nature of this work may be more open ended.

How much time should be spent on homework?

<u>EYFS</u>	Reading Phonics Talking Tips	Daily 10-15 mins Daily 3-5 mins N/A
<u>Year 1 and 2</u>	Reading Spelling Maths	Daily 10 -15 mins 20 mins a week 15 mins a week
<u>Y3</u>	Reading Spelling Maths (including tables)	15 – 20 mins 3 times a week (when reading independently) 20 mins a week 20 mins a week
<u>Y4/Y5</u>	Reading Spelling Maths (including tables)	15 – 20 mins 3 times a week 20 mins a week 20-30 mins a week
<u>Y6</u>	Reading SPAG Maths (including tables)	15 – 20 mins 3 times a week 30 mins a week 30 mins a week

Y6 will receive more work to do at home during the run up to SATS each year.

Each year group will inform the parents about homework in the parents meetings held at the beginning of the year and on curriculum newsletters.

To help parents and children, all homework will be set on a **Wednesday** and will be due in the following **Monday**. Teachers will notify parents at the start of the school year if there are any alterations to this system. For projects and presentations set over a number of weeks, children will be given a hand in date by their teacher.

If parents need advice on how to support their children with homework then please speak to their class teacher in the first instance.

What about children who don't complete homework?

The expectation is that children will complete homework and parents will support their children with this. However, if there are extenuating circumstances meaning your child has not been able to complete their homework then please send in a short note to explain why. If there are persistent problems with children not completing homework then the class teacher will speak to parents to find out reasons for this.

There may be occasions when a child will miss playtime or some of a lunch time if they have not completed homework so that they can be supported. This will be at discretion of the class teacher.

How will the homework be marked?

Children's homework will be marked to show that it is valued in a variety of ways but always according to the schools marking policy. Teachers generally will not mark homework that is handed in late.