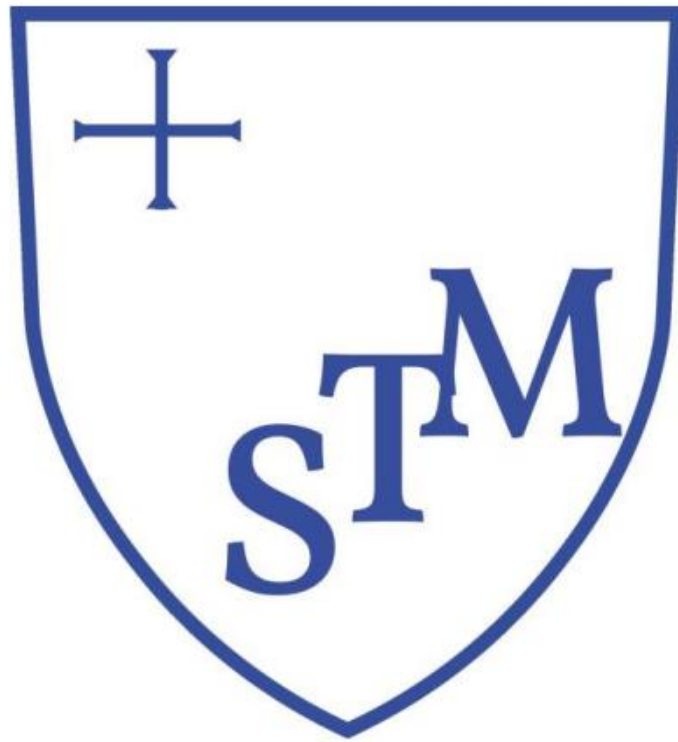


St Martin's C of E Primary School



Homework Policy

April 2025

Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day, which contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

We aim to make homework enjoyable and rewarding, consolidating learning done at school. Some may be on-going, such as reading and practicing spellings, number facts and times tables, whilst other pieces will be weekly and linked more specifically to a topic in school.

Specific tasks may be sent home via a worksheet, as a task on TEAMS or as a message on Class Dojo.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- to promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to promote dialogue about learning between pupil and parent/carer;
- to enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- to consolidate and reinforce learning completed in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

Types of Homework

We set a variety of homework activities that should be enjoyable and purposeful. Teachers should set a variety of subjects, including R.E each half term. Tasks may be written, but we aim to give a wide range of tasks over the school year, such as:

- researching a new topic;
- preparing a presentation to the class;
- working on a project;
- creating a piece of art;
- making a model;
- trying out a simple scientific experiment.

Homework should be completed in Learning Logs, if the task results in written work.

Homework tasks will be set each Friday and children will be asked to complete the task / return their learning log to school by the following Wednesday for review by the class teacher.

Year Group Guidance

Nursery

- Complete one piece of homework in their learning log each week. This will be to develop an area of learning within the foundation stage

Reception

- Practice of sounds and words to support reading skills.
- Choosing a weekly library book that they read and share for pleasure with their family.
- Practice forming their letters correctly to support their writing.
- Complete one piece of homework in their learning log each week. This will be to develop an area of learning within the foundation stage

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)

- Read regularly with a member of their family, recording this in their reading record.
- Choose and read a library book for pleasure.
- Learn additional phonics, spelling patterns or mathematical number facts.
- Tasks related to topics being studied in school, this may not always be a written task. Written tasks should be recorded in the child's Learning Log.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6)

- Read regularly with a member of the family, recording this in their reading record.
- Weekly spellings to be practiced, linked to class spelling rule or their personal target.
- Times tables to be practiced regularly using TT Rockstars.
- Tasks relating to the topics being covered in class, these may result in a written task, which can be recorded in the child's Learning Log.

In Year 6, we will set more homework and revision in the build up to SATs. This additional work will steadily prepare children for their SATs and for when they transition to Year 7 at secondary school. Homework is a means of helping the children to revise for examinations, as well as to ensure that prior learning has been understood.

Feedback for Homework

Teachers should always acknowledge children's homework and feedback will be provided in a way that acknowledges their efforts. This may not always happen through written comments from the teacher. Sometimes, work will be discussed in lessons through sharing work as a class, self-marking or peer assessment. Learning Logs can be 'shared with a friend' in class.

High quality work should be praised with Dojo points for children's effort in completing homework.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

St Martin's, we carefully consider the needs of individual children and think about how they can best work with parents and carers to support their learning, this includes their personal and social development. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child and we endeavor to adapt any task set, so that all children can contribute.

When setting homework for pupils who are unable to access adapted tasks, we will link the focus to individual targets, to ensure this is effective, teachers will be supported by the SENDCo.

The Role of Parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their child and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, allowing their child to visit the library regularly and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

Useful websites that the school recommends for parents to support their child at home are:

English websites:

Support with phonics- <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Free access to some e-books - <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

List of suitable books for your child's age- <https://www.thereaderteacher.com/>

Improving your child's English including writing and grammar-<https://uk.ixl.com/english>

Supporting your child's creative writing at home-<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/kids-activities/creative-writing/> or

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/253gFvjShztjzRprffwVvKq/bbc-bitesize-creative-writing-resources>

Our local library has lots of great resources

https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200261/libraries/827/tipton_library

Maths websites:

<https://topmarks.co.uk>

<https://play.ttrockstars.com>

<https://playnumbots.com>

If parents have any questions or concerns about homework, they should firstly contact the child's class teacher.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the curriculum committee of the governing body.