

St Paul's Catholic Nursery and Primary School



Home Learning Policy

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Learning at home forms an essential part of a child's education. Regular home learning is important as it gives pupils the opportunity to reinforce learning from school, practice at home the tasks covered in class and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will support them throughout their school and adult life.

At St Pauls Catholic School, Home Learning is defined as 'out of school' tasks set for children as an extension of their learning. Home learning is for practice, preparation and reinforcement.

Purpose

- to encourage independent learning skills
- to create additional time for structured focused learning to support individual pupil progression
- to bridge the gap between home and school
- to develop a more effective partnership between school and parents

Practice

- The setting of Home Learning for all children will be according to the Home Learning timetable within this policy. The frequency and length of the tasks will vary according to the age and ability of the child, and according to the programme of work at the time, and each task/activity **should not last longer than 30mins**.
- Tasks may include, amongst others, reading and spelling, maths activities - including the learning of tables, extension of work begun in school, additional research, projects, collecting information, investigations.
- Home Learning will be set for clearly defined purposes, based on the learning within the class.
- Children will be expected to apply the same high standards to Home Learning as they would to class work.
- Home Learning is monitored; if a child **regularly** fails to return Home Learning on 3 occasions in one term then a letter will be sent home requesting parents attend a meeting with the Class Teacher, Headteacher or Phase leader to ascertain the reasons and what can be done to support the child in the completion of the Home Learning tasks.
- Home Learning should not impact negatively on family life.

Responsibilities

- **Children are responsible** for collecting, completing and returning their Home Learning on time and for seeking clarification with their teacher if they are unsure or finding the home learning difficult.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children have completed their Home Learning satisfactorily and to the required standard (*please see St Pauls Home School Agreement*).
- Teachers are responsible for setting and marking Home Learning on a regular basis in accordance with the Home Learning timetable.
- Teachers are responsible to monitor and track Home Learning of all children.

Communication

- Home Learning will be explained to the children and where appropriate additional information will be given to the parents including information on duration and deadlines.
- This policy along with the Home Learning timetable will forthwith be published on our school website and available on request to parents.
- The class teacher is available to discuss concerns parents may have regarding Home Learning.
- Home Learning goes out on a Friday and is due back the following Thursday.

Reading

- Children should be reading daily for the time allocated in the homework grid below

- It is important that an adult signs the reading record daily to indicate that they have read at home

Spelling

- Spellings will be set on a Friday and tested the following Friday in KS2.
- Year 1 spellings will be set on a Friday and tested the following Friday.
- Year 2 spellings will be set on a Wednesday and tested the following Wednesday.
- We follow the Herts for Learning spelling scheme in KS2 and Twinkl phonics in KS1.

Setting of homework

- Home Learning from year 1 upwards will be set on my maths and via the weekly home learning communication newsletter which is sent out each Friday – if you are unable to access this please let your child's class teacher know and we can send home a paper copy
- Home Learning in EYFS will consist of a reading book and from the summer term weekly spellings will also be sent home to learn.

Knowledge organisers

- A knowledge organiser is a document that contains key facts, vocabulary and information that children need to have a basic knowledge of for them to have a good understanding of a topic
- We will be making use of these to support children in their learning.
- They will be uploaded to the class pages on the school website. By the end of the unit, children should know all the vocabulary and facts on the knowledge organiser.
- Children should use part of their homework time to support the learning of the knowledge organiser.

Half term maths fluency tasks (Year 2 – 6 only)

- The National Curriculum states that pupils must “become fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics” stating that pupils should “develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately”
- Years 2-6 will receive half termly ‘fluency facts’ to learn. These must be practiced at home in short bursts each week and will be tested by teachers over time. Children must be able to recall the facts instantly by the end of each half term.

Home Learning Timetable Expectations

Year	Daily tasks Approximate time per day	Weekly Home Learning task Approximate time per week (distributed over a few days)
Nursery	Daily story time, time as required Suggested amount 10mins	Possible activities: Sharing a story with your child 20 mins
Reception	Daily reading, time as required Suggested amount 10mins Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Writing/Phonics/High Frequency words, handwriting/ letter formation Counting/ RE 20 mins (or two 10 minutes)
Year 1	Daily reading 15 minutes Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Writing/Phonics High Frequency words/ spelling/ Mathematics/Number bonds/ RE/ Topic work/Science 20 mins (or two 10 minutes)
Year 2	Daily reading 15 minutes Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Spelling/ High Frequency words/ Literacy Activities Mathematics /Times Tables/Number bonds/ RE/ Topic 30 mins (or three 10 minutes)
Year 3	Daily reading 20 minutes Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Spelling Literacy Activities Mathematics Times Tables/Number bonds RE Topic work Science 50 mins (10 minutes or more a day)
Year 4	Daily reading 20 minutes Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Spelling Mathematics Times Tables/Number bonds Literacy Activities Research – linked to topics RE Science 1hr (distributed over several days)
Year 5	Daily reading 20 minutes Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Spelling Mathematics Times Tables/Number bonds Literacy Activities Science RE Research – linked to topics 1hr 30mins (distributed over several days)
Year 6	Daily reading 20 minutes Your child should regularly be read to, as well as read with.	Possible activities: Mathematics Literacy Activities Times Tables/Number bonds Science

		Research – linked to topics Maths facts RE 2hrs (distributed over several days)
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