



***Banks St. Stephen's Church of England Primary School***  
***"Belonging, Serving, Succeeding"***

Vision for Banks St. Stephen's Church of England Primary School

"We actively promote a sense of pride in belonging to this community. Leading by example, we seek opportunities to serve God by serving others. We are ambitious for each individual and determined to enable every member of the school community to flourish and succeed."

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

### **Rationale**

At Banks St Stephen's Primary School we believe that homework is an essential part of pupils' learning. In line with National Curriculum requirements, homework is set and children are expected to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life. Homework is designed to increase pupils' knowledge and develop fluency in particular areas. Homework tasks are an integral part of learning and reinforce what the children are learning in class.

- Homework is set regularly as a means of reinforcing and extending learning
- Homework is differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils
- Homework should be understood by pupils and parents/carers, and not be seen as an onerous task

### **Definition**

Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. The main focus of homework will be Maths and English, with occasional tasks to extend and enhance learning across the curriculum.

Homework will involve some or all of the following activities:

- Reading: independent, shared or paired reading, with possible activities to reinforce comprehension and understanding of texts as children progress through school.
- Spellings and vocabulary extension: learning sounds and spellings; activities to apply spelling rules and patterns to extended tasks.
- Grammar: learning grammar rules; activities to apply understanding of grammar in reading and writing.
- Research into an aspect of the curriculum as preparation for, extension to, consolidation of or follow up to work carried out in class.
- Learning number facts (multiplication tables, number bonds, etc..).
- Other tasks to extend work done in class, including topic-based work.

The nature, type and amount of homework will vary according to the age and ability of the pupil.

### **Entitlement**

All children are entitled to have homework, set by their teacher, that is matched to their ability and needs. Parents/carers are entitled to share in the learning of their child.

### **Aims**

At St. Stephen's, we appreciate how important the links between home and school are, and the need for us to work together to ensure a good education for all children. It is for this reason that we believe that it is important that children have homework set that will support learning within the classroom. Homework will be carefully planned to extend learning, enhance and reinforce skills and understanding, and allow children to consolidate and improve their skills further.

Through the provision of a variety of activities and approaches to homework we aim to:

- raise standards in all curriculum areas but particularly basic skills in Maths and English
- create a sound partnership between parents/carers and teachers with regard to children's learning
- consolidate/reinforce pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding of work covered in class
- improve pupils' attitudes to learning and independent learning skills

### **In setting and marking homework, teachers will:**

- give reasonable time for its completion
- match tasks to time and as far as possible to the abilities of the children
- ensure homework is marked in line with the school's marking policy
- provide feedback to children on their progress
- provide additional guidance for parents/carers on how and when homework should be completed, including web links, etc.
- provide opportunities for children to complete homework in school if it is not handed in.

### **Parents and carers**

At St. Stephen's, we recognise the importance of developing a sound partnership between parents/carers and children with reference to children's learning.

**Parents and carers will:**

- be provided with additional guidance to support learning at home and to help children with homework tasks;
- be encouraged to support the school's homework policy
- be given feedback on how children are doing with homework during parents' meetings and in annual reports.
- see that homework is done conscientiously and in the best possible conditions

**Monitoring**

The Headteacher will regularly review the Policy and Guidelines on behalf of the Governing Body, alongside the whole staff team, and will monitor the quality of homework provision through planning and work scrutiny.

**What sort of homework should I expect for my child?**

- Children will bring home reading books every day.
- Homework tasks will depend on the age and ability of children, but in general terms, the following can be expected:

**Reception**

- Reading – Children will be provided with a home reading book and a reading record to be signed by parents/carers.
- Phonics games

**Y1**

- Reading – as often as possible
- Maths fluency – number bonds etc.
- Spellings – weekly
- Phonics games
- Other homework e.g. research as appropriate

**Y2**

- Reading – as often as possible
- Maths fluency – number bonds, times table facts
- Spellings – weekly
- Preparation for weekly spelling and times table tests
- Other homework e.g. research as appropriate

### **Y3 & 4**

- Reading – as often as possible
- Maths fluency – number facts, times table facts.
- Spellings – weekly
- Preparation for weekly spelling and times table tests
- Grammar activities
- Other homework e.g. research as appropriate

### **Y5 & 6**

- Reading – as often as possible
- Maths fluency – number facts, times table facts.
- Spellings – weekly
- Preparation for weekly spelling and times table tests
- Grammar activities – weekly
- Other homework e.g. research as appropriate

Homework will often be set using the following online learning platforms:

Purple Mash, Spelling Frame, spag.com and Times Tables Rockstars.

Devices will be provided for pupils in school who may have difficulty accessing them at home.

**This policy was reviewed in October 2022**

**Will be reviewed by October 2024**