

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING



ST. URSULA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

“With God at the heart of our St Ursula’s family, we welcome all as we learn and grow together.”

Homework Policy

Autumn 2024

Rationale:

At St Ursula's Catholic Primary School, homework is seen as an essential part of outstanding education. Homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas. It helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy is successful because there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement. In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school.

Homework is seen as one of the principal ways in which pupil achievement can be raised. The benefits of doing homework must be instilled at an early age in all pupils, so that independent home study becomes routine.

Aims of homework at St Ursula's Catholic Primary School

- Enable pupils to understand that independent learning is vital to achieving success
- Give every pupil the opportunity to fulfil their potential
- Instil in all pupils the importance of life-long learning
- Provide training for students in planning & organising time
- Promote a responsibility for learning within each pupil
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school

Homework structure

Homework is given on a regular basis across the school following the schedule below. Time guidance for homework, apart from daily reading activities, would average out as:

- Year 3 and 4 children spending no more than an hour on homework a week
- Year 5 children no more than an hour and a half a week
- Year 6 children no more than two hours a week.

	RE	Reading	Spelling	Grammar	Maths	Times tables	CLC
Year R		Reading daily for 10 minutes					
Year 1		Reading daily for 10 minutes	Spelling Shed (Online)		Maths Shed (online)		<u>Creative Learning curriculum</u>
Year 2		Reading daily for 10 minutes	Spelling Shed (Online)		Maths Shed (online)		Complete 1 piece per term
Year 3	Wednesday Word / Thursday Thought	Reading daily for 15 minutes	Spelling Shed (Online)	Grammar CGP	Maths Shed Differentiated	Weekly tables / Times tables Rockstars	<u>Creative Learning curriculum</u>
Year 4	Wednesday Word / Thursday Thought	Reading daily for 15 minutes	Spelling Shed (Online)	Grammar CGP	Maths Shed Differentiated	Weekly tables / Times tables Rockstars	Complete 1 piece per term
Year 5	Wednesday Word / Thursday Thought	Reading daily for 15 minutes	Spelling Shed (Online)	Grammar CGP	Maths Shed Differentiated	Times tables Rockstars	
Year 6	Wednesday Word / Thursday Thought	Reading daily for 15 minutes	Spelling Shed (Online)	Grammar CGP	Maths Shed Differentiated		
		Year 6: SATs preparation in core subjects during build up to test week.					

Homework dates and deadlines

Homework is set for all classes on a Friday and needs to be completed by the following Thursday.

Reading

At St Ursula's we want to ensure that reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading.

In KS2, children visit the School Library during an allocated slot, each week, to choose a reading book to take home. They are expected to read their chosen book daily, for 15 minutes. These books are banded to ensure the text being read is at the appropriate level for the child.

In EYFS & Key stage 1 children will take home 2 books each week, so that we are fully in line with our Read Write Inc Phonics Scheme. These 2 books will support our childrens' reading development and support our Read Write Inc (RWI) Phonics scheme. They will have a paper copy of the book that they have been reading in their phonics group and the" follow-on book bag book." **The children will change their books on a Friday.**

The RWI books have a section at the front of the book to help parents understand **How to help your child read this book** and also goes over the **Story Green Words** and **Red Words** in the book. Some books also have a **Vocabulary** section where you can support your child with the definition of a new word. At the back of each book there is a **Retell the story** section and **Questions to chat about**.

Monitoring and Evaluation

A continuous process of monitoring the effectiveness of the Homework Policy will be carried out by the school. A whole school evaluation of the effectiveness of the policy will be carried out every academic year. This will involve consultation with pupils, staff, governors and parents. Where further good practice is identified, this will be shared across the school.

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the Homework Policy is efficiently and effectively implanted within their class. This will be monitored by the Acting Interim Heads of EYFS/KS1 and of KS2 in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

Creative Learning curriculum

As part of our Creative Learning Curriculum, all classes will be asked to complete home learning projects each term. These projects are linked to the class topic and children have a choice of which tasks they wish to complete at home. The Creative Learning Curriculum homework is a great opportunity for parents and carers to work alongside their child, enhancing their learning experience. The projects are shared with other classes and parents regularly.

Role of the Class Teacher

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.

- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes in the Year group.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.

Role of the Headteacher and Governing Body

- To check compliance of the Homework Policy.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework – therefore showing that homework is valued and that it can help with the children's learning.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.


Signed: _____
Head teacher


Signed: _____
Governing Body

11th December 2024