



**St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School
Egerton Road,
Bishopston
Bristol, BS7 8HP**

Homework Policy 2017

Policy Owner	Headteacher
Governing Body Committee	Standards
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This policy is available at <http://www.st-bonaventures.bristol.sch.uk/>



Aims of the Policy

- to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents
- to ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- to ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- to ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- to ensure that parents have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupils
- to extend and support the child's learning through reinforcement and revision
- to provide opportunities for the parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- to provide opportunities for parents and pupils to enjoy learning experiences together
- to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- to exploit all resources for learning including those found at home
- to extend school learning
- to encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline required for individual study
- to prepare children for the demands of secondary school

Content of the Homework Given

The main focus of homework will be English, Maths and Reading.

Homework will at times consist of formal exercises to be completed by the child, but will also include activities to be completed jointly by the parent and pupil, e.g. reading, research.

Homework begins in **Key Stage 1** with reading practice. This continues to be essential all the way through the child's primary education. When ready, children are expected to learn spellings throughout the year and this then extends to writing tasks.

Numeracy tasks begin with simple number activities that eventually develop into formal tasks. This will be supplemented by tables and number bond practice and mathematical games. In Foundation Stage children do weekly maths challenge cards.

In addition to regular weekly activities, children may be given additional tasks that are differentiated according to age and ability. These may include research work, reading in preparation for lessons, preparation for an oral presentation and traditional written assignments. Occasionally children may be asked to finish work at home, but this will not form the core part of homework.

Teachers will establish a regular pattern for homework that parents will be informed about.

In **Key Stage 2** all children will be provided with a book/ folder in which to record homework tasks. Parents are requested to sign the reading record book weekly to confirm that they have read with their child. By year 6 this becomes a formal homework diary.

Time Allocations for Homework at St Bonaventure's School

All **MUST** Homework will be identified in the child's Homework book/folder.

All **COULD** Homework will also be identified but it is up to the child and the parent if this work is to be completed.



All Homework below is MUST

Year Group	Time allocation	Subjects
Reception	10 minutes per evening	Daily reading, occasional Maths
Year 1	One hour per week	Daily reading, occasional Maths, spellings
Year 2	One hour per week	Daily reading, spellings practice, occasional Maths
Year 3	One and a half hours per week	Daily reading, spellings practice, Times tables, Literacy and Numeracy
Year 4	One and a half hours per week	Daily reading, spellings practice, Times tables, Literacy and Numeracy
Year 5	Two hours per week	Daily reading, spellings practice, Times tables, Literacy and Numeracy
Year 6	Two and a half hours per week	Daily reading, spellings practice, Times tables, Literacy and Numeracy and other homework that supports learning in year 6

This requirement follows the recommended national guidelines. The reading, especially in Key Stage 2, may form part of the other homework tasks.

Homework during School Holidays

Compulsory (**MUST**) homework will not be given during the Christmas, Easter or Summer Holidays. On occasions, teachers may give children the opportunity to research for project work during any holiday period, but this will be optional and additional time will be allocated during term time. It is anticipated however, that all children will continue to read during holiday times, from either a reading scheme book or other chosen text as appropriate to their age. In Year 6 SATs practice will be given during the Easter break

Special Educational Needs

The above timetable applies equally to children with recognised special educational needs. However, it will be differentiated according to their needs.

Planning and Coordination

It is the responsibility of the class teacher to plan and provide manageable tasks for the children and to liaise with parents where necessary. All parents will be informed at the beginning of each year of the regular homework pattern. This will include the day the work will be set and the deadlines for completion. **Any child who fails to complete homework in Key Stage 2 will be sent to the Head Teacher.** If a pattern of avoidance develops, the class teacher will give a detention at her/his discretion and parents will be informed. Children are not given homework when they are ill or absent for any other reason, other than in exceptional circumstances.



The Role of Parents

Parents are asked to provide a suitable place in which homework can be completed, whether working alone or with an adult. It is essential that parents make it clear to their children that they value homework and are willing to support the school with their approach. This includes encouragement and praise at all levels.

Whilst parents are encouraged to support their child it is important to stress that most regular 'formal' exercises should be done without parental assistance. If parents do give assistance at any times they are asked to note this in the homework diary to inform the teacher. Class teachers are explicit with instructions, but parents are asked to consult them if unsure.

Feedback

All homework is marked and feedback given to pupils. This may take a variety of forms according to the work set, such as:

- class discussion about the work
- tests
- individual written feedback
- individual verbal feedback
- house points (Year 1 onwards)

Parents are encouraged to give teachers any useful feedback. This may include:

- notes in the reading record for Key Stage 1
- notes in the homework diary
- notes attached to exercise books
- verbal feedback

The feedback from our parent questionnaire will be used to evaluate the policy.

Reviewed and agreed by Standards Committee on
Agreed and signed off by the full governing body on
Next review: Term 6 2018/19