



HOMEWORK POLICY

May 2016

MISSION STATEMENT

At St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School:

- we encourage each other to live our lives based on Gospel values;
- we acknowledge and nurture the unique gifts in every individual;
- we have a positive vision of our Faith;
- we ensure that prayer, reflection and worship form an integral part of every day;
- we recognise each person as a vital part of God's creation;
- we lay the foundations for successful, lifelong learning;
- we are at the heart of our Parish, welcoming, supporting and working in partnership with families.

Statement of Intention

At St John's Catholic Primary School, we provide all children with homework, to enable them to practise skills and learning they have already done in school. Sometimes the aim is to repeat something done in class as a practise exercise. On other times, the homework will ask children to apply their learning to a new context. At all times, however, children will not be given work to do at home that they have not learned in school, unless it is a project which asks them to find out about something new. For example, to do their own project about the Romans.

We aim to provide opportunities for parents/carers to work alongside their child or children to support their learning in school. This is because we want to work as a partnership in your child's learning – school, the child and their parents working together to help your child to reach their potential.

We also aim to:

- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Extend and support learning
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepare Year Six children for the secondary phase of education

Our staff hope that you can support us in getting the balance right. We want to work together with you to help your child be the best they can possibly be and reach their full potential. If you have any concerns about the homework set, or, you feel that the homework is just right, please do come in and see your child's teacher.

It is worth noting that when children deliberately do not attempt to do homework (and this does not include when family emergencies occur), children will be required to remain inside, during their own time, to complete their work. Allowing one child to opt out of doing homework whilst everyone else is expected to complete it, causes bad feeling amongst a class.

We therefore make it very clear that we expect everyone to be treated equally and all children are required to complete homework.

Homework will:

- Increase as children get older
- Be interesting and relevant to the class work
- Be encouraged by a positive approach
- Encourage parents to support their children's work by providing where possible, a quiet undisturbed environment
- Be marked by the class teacher if handed in on time, using the school's marking policy
- Not necessarily be written work

The table below gives the agreed amount of homework for children. In addition to this, parents are issued with a password for their children to access our online RM Easimaths program at home. Children in Year 6 will be supported with their SATs preparation and the test format in the spring term, by practising SATs type questions at home.

	English		Maths			Project / Topic Work
	Reading	Writing	Times Tables	Mental Maths	Written Work	
Reception	5 mins daily with an adult					Weekly home learning challenge
Year 1 / 2	10 mins daily with an adult	Weekly spellings	5 mins daily counting in 2s, 5s and 10s			Can I find out? task to complete each holiday
Year 3 / 4	15 mins daily with an adult	Weekly spellings	✓ daily	✓ weekly		A project to complete each holiday in a format of your choice - written, art, online research, craft etc.
Year 5 / 6	20 mins daily	- Weekly spellings - Weekly written task	✓ daily	✓ weekly	Weekly written task	A project to complete each holiday in a format of your choice - written, art, online research, craft etc.