

Handy Home-work hints

for kids by kids



Have a go
BEFORE
YOU SAY
NO!

At school
listen to what
you have to
do.

Work at a table.

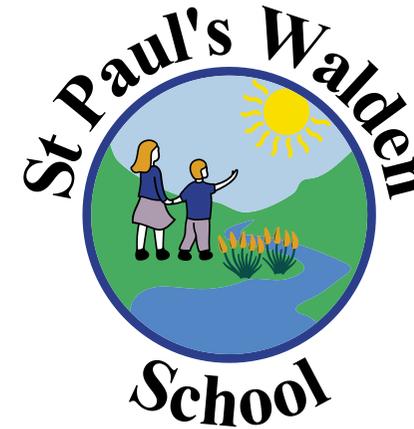
Get your equipment together

Learning is part of
life ... we should
never stop learning
new things.

Make sure your
hands are clean
so you don't
smudge your work.



Don't rush!



Homework Policy

A Guide for Families and Pupils

Introduction

Research over a number of years in this and in other countries has indicated that parental interest in their child's learning can make an important contribution to a child's progress at school.

St. Paul's Walden School sees Homework as an effective way for parents to work with the school to further their child's education and extend the school's ethos of parents in partnership.

Children learn many skills by modelling their performance on significant adults. Parents are children's first, and longest, educators and the care they provide is important in developing the whole child. Opportunities for children to acquire skills and learn techniques and crafts occur daily in the home/family environment: helping with chores, DIY, cooking or gardening, taking walks, making visits, going on outings and holidays are invaluable experiences that are difficult, or impossible, to reproduce in school. Expecting children to care for their possessions encourages independence, dependability and good citizenship.

Talking and listening to children and showing them their views and opinions are valued, helps to develop tolerance and respect and promotes self-confidence.

Parents' attitudes, beliefs and actions influence their children's. Encouraging children to care for and respect one another by example is a major parental role.



The purpose of this policy

Through the Homework policy we aim to...

- *Ensure that individual pupil needs are taken into account;*
- *Provide parents with a clear understanding of our expectations of them and their child;*
- *Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to share and enjoy learning experiences;*
- *Ensure a consistent and progressive approach to Homework throughout the school;*
- *Consolidate school learning through reinforcement, revision and extension activities;*

- *Extend school learning, for example through creative research activities;*
- *Encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.*



Homework Tips

We hope that the school and parents can work in partnership so that your child can develop the necessary confidence and self-discipline to complete Homework tasks with increasing independence.

In the early years parents are more actively involved in a child's learning. Homework should be done in short, concentrated, positive sessions. Do not let it drag on. If it does, **stop** and return to it later.

As a child progresses through the school there will be the need for the pupil to work quietly and independently, so we do ask parents to help by ensuring that the child has a comfortable place to do their learning and that they are not distracted by too much noise or visual stimulus (e.g. television).

If we wish our children to love learning and be inspired to learn for life it is so important that it is a positive experience in the primary education.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Expectations

Reading / Phonics

Children will be expected to read at home every day. This is an important time to practise reading skills learnt at school, but reading 'time' should also include time spent talking about the book, the parent reading to the child and regular opportunities for bedtime stories. Parents should use the home/school Reading Booklet to record what has been read and any comments that they would like to make.

In Reception, pupils will have phonics to practise at home and sight vocabulary words (irregular words are known as "tricky words")

As children become more confident and fluent readers, they will need to develop their reading skills further. This should include opportunities to read to an adult, respond to questions, discuss the plot of the book and the characters, recall what has happened and predict what may happen. Children should always be asked for their opinion about the book they are reading and give reasons to substantiate this.

Children should also be encouraged to read a wide range of material; non-fiction (reference) book, poetry, newspapers, comics, recipes, instructions for a game etc.

The more confident reader will be capable of sustained silent reading and will need to keep their own personal reading journal up to date themselves. In Oak class a parent will need to verify that reading has taken place and a counter signature written in the child's journal.

Maths

Children will receive specific activities such as times tables and maths work that relates to what they have been learning in class to consolidate learning. Sometimes children will have tasks that are investigative, require problem solving skills or they may be asked to play a game with the whole family. Maths links for all learning can be found on the website or at the end of this policy.

English

Children will receive age related spellings. They will be required to use the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method to practise their spellings and then write sentences to consolidate and show understanding. These sentences will be written in full sentences and will highlight any misconceptions. The children will also have challenges to show understanding of grammatical knowledge learnt.

Homework task

Children will also receive subject specific activities for the foundation subjects e.g. History, Geography, Computing, Design & Technology, Art, R.E., PSHCE, and Science. Sometimes these might be a S.T.E.A.M activity (Science Technology Engineering Art and Maths). As a school we try to integrate the STEAM subjects, encouraging children to think independently and find solutions to problems. The school recognises the importance of encouraging children to be aware of the world around them, therefore we encourage parents to continue to stimulate these in their homework. Some children will have unusual tasks that are investigative and challenging and may take a few weeks to complete. They may be asked to play a game with the whole family or prepare an oral presentation, find out information, or read in preparation for a lesson.

Procedures

Homework details are in the front of the Homework book, informing parents and children of the day it is set and the day it is due in. Usually this is given out on Wednesday and expected in on the following Tuesday.

We value all the learning completed by our children at St Paul's Walden and expect our pupils to always produce work of a high standard as they would in class. This includes learning tasks completed at home. Therefore, it is very important that in Oaks a pen is used for all English activities and a sharp pencil for maths. Other classes will be expected to use a pencil for all activities unless a pen licence has been given. The date will be written in full for spelling and task activities and the short date for maths and science. Rulers are to be used to underline the date and label. In KS2 a ruler will be used for the date, title and to label. The quality of presentation should reflect the age and maturity of the child and will follow the same expectations as would be expected in school.

Expectations in Reception

Willows (Reception)	
Reading	5 mins daily
Phonics/sight words	5 mins daily

Expectations in KSI

Rowans (Year 1)	Weekly homework
Maths	10-15 mins
Reading	5 mins daily
Phonics/sight words	5 mins daily
Rowans (Year 2)	Weekly homework
Task	20 mins (when set)
Maths	10-15 mins (Inc Times Tables)
Reading	5 mins daily
Spelling	5 mins daily

Expectations in Lower KS2

Silver Birches (Year 3/4)	Weekly homework
Task	45 mins
Maths	20 mins
Reading	daily independent
Times tables	5-10 mins daily
Spellings	20 mins

Expectations in Upper KS2

Oaks (Year 5/6)	Weekly homework
Task	45 mins-1 hr
Maths	25 mins
Reading	daily independent
Times tables	10 mins daily
Spellings	25 mins

Links

Below are some links that we feel will help with understanding and researching some of the activities that your children will be working on

Maths

<https://www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/blog/we-didnt-do-maths-our-day>

<https://dundaleprimaryschoolandnurserytring.primarysite.media/>

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

<https://corbettmathsprimary.com/2018/07/19/angle-facts-video/>

KS2

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zbr9wmn>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

KS1

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z3g4d2p>