

St. Laurence C.E. (A) Primary School



HOMEWORK POLICY

Introduction

At St Laurence C of E Primary School we consider that homework is part of the school's overall learning and assessment strategy. It refers to any work or activities that the children are asked to do outside school hours. It is a part of the wider partnership between home and school and so needs the support of all concerned if it is to be effective.

Use of well planned, effective homework, contributes to many aims of St Laurence C of E Primary School. It aids the development of Key skills identified in the National Curriculum, it can support the intellectual, aesthetic, creative and cultural development of the child and it encourages the development of active partnership with parents and carers, as they share in their child's learning through encouragement, interest and if appropriate active support.

What are the aims of this policy?

To ensure there is a consistent approach throughout the school.

To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework

To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

Why is homework important?

It strengthens links between home and school

It encourages children to develop their skills of organisation, independence, self discipline and time management

It helps to develop skills and attitudes which children will need for successful, independent, lifelong learning;

It provides opportunities for children to prepare for, consolidate or enrich and extend learning activities from the school day.

It helps to inform parents about children's school work and provides opportunity for parents to support this work

It helps develop good work habits in preparation for Secondary education and future employment.

It encourages children and parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework
- To ensure that the policy is fully and consistently followed
- To provide support for parents with information about homework
- To provide support for children with the running of a homework club

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set appropriate amounts and types of work, taking into account age, ability and individual needs.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given
- To mark and give feedback about homework
- To positively promote home learning with children
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework

What is the role of parents / carers?

- To support children in completing homework
- To encourage children to complete homework to the best of their ability and to hand it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for children to complete homework
- To keep teachers informed of concerns or queries

What is the role of children?

- To make sure they understand the tasks they have been set
- To put the same amount of effort as would be expected of class work to try their best
- To hand in homework in on time
- To take on board any feedback about homework
- To take care of the home learning work book

What about children who do not complete homework?

The expectations are that children will complete homework. Teachers rely on the co-operation of parents to encourage their children to complete homework. Parents are encouraged to take an active and positive part in homework with their children. It is hoped that they will gain invaluable insights into the curriculum by taking an interest in home learning activities.

Teachers will accept genuine reasons for a child failing to complete homework. If parents or teachers encounter any difficulties regarding the completion of homework the normal channels of communication, diaries, informal word at home time, phone call or formal appointment will be used to address the difficulty.

As the children get older there may be occasions when a child will miss playtime or some of lunch time if they have not completed homework.

Why will some children be given extra homework?

Children who take part in specialised lessons such as Early Literacy Strategy may sometimes be set extra homework to reinforce the work being done. Additionally children who work in a one to one situation with teaching assistants will sometimes be given extra homework.

In both cases, children should complete the work alongside their normal homework unless the child or the parents have been told otherwise.

If the child is finding they have too much work then parents should speak to the child's teacher.

Equal Opportunity

Opportunities to take part in homework are open and available to all pupils. All children are allowed access to and given confidence in the different activities offered, regardless of their ability, gender, religion or cultural/ethnic background. The content of the homework and the resources available ensure that all pupils are valued equally, are able to participate with enjoyment and are able to achieve appropriate to their age, experience and abilities. Provision is made for children with Special Educational Needs so that they can take part in any programme with the other children

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if necessary.

Signed:

Headteacher

Signed:

Chair of Governors

Date:

Review September 2015