

## **St. Andrew's VC Lower School**

### **Home Learning Policy**

#### **Rationale**

At St. Andrew's VC Lower School home learning will mainly take the form of reading, spelling, times tables practice and investigative activities with some other maths as appropriate. These activities will be short but frequent and are intended to be undertaken in a positive atmosphere. Their purpose is to encourage thinking and promote an enjoyment of learning. Investigative activities, linked to topics, are designed to encourage parents and children to talk about the learning together.

#### **Purposes**

- To develop a partnership between teachers and parents in pursuing the aims of the school.
- To consolidate and reinforce understanding.
- To extend school learning.
- To promote investigative work.
- To encourage the enjoyment of reading.
- To encourage thinking.
- To promote the enjoyment of learning.

#### **Activities**

##### **Reception**

- Reading books are sent home with a home-school book for comments. Children read with school staff once a week, and opportunities are given for children to change books every day.
- Key words are taken home to learn and once all can be read, the children take home key word spellings.
- Library books are taken home weekly.
- Children are invited to bring in items related to themes and wow slips to show achievements made outside school.
- Topic based challenge linked to the topic (one to two each half term).

##### **Year One**

- Reading books are sent home with a home-school book for comments. Children read with their class teacher and the book is changed when appropriate.
- Word sheets are sent home including key words and common exception words.
- In the spring and summer term, simple spellings are taken home and tested weekly.
- Library books are taken home weekly.
- Investigative topic related activities as appropriate.

##### **Year Two**

- Reading books are sent home with a home-school book for comments. Children read with their class teacher and the book is changed when appropriate.
- Spellings are sent home and tested weekly.
- Library books are taken home weekly.
- Investigative topic related activities as appropriate.

### **Year Three**

- Reading books are sent home with a home-school book for comments.
- Spellings are sent home and tested weekly. Three sentences should be written incorporating spellings from the spelling list. The amount of sentences should be reduced for individual children if necessary. Children who would like to can write up to five sentences.
- Times tables practice for weekly tests.
- Library books are taken home weekly.
- Research tasks linked to various subjects, e.g. diaries and topic work.
- Athletics every two weeks.
- Number bonds practice for weekly test.

### **Year Four**

- Reading books are sent home with a home-school book for comments.
- Spellings are sent home and tested weekly. Five sentences should be written incorporating spellings from the spelling list. The amount of sentences should be reduced for individual children if necessary.
- Times tables practice for weekly tests.
- Library books are taken home weekly.
- Research tasks linked to various subjects, e.g. diaries and topic work.
- Athletics every two weeks.
- Number bonds practice for weekly test.