



St. Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Homework Policy

Date of Policy Issue: September 2026

Name of Responsible Person : Mr s Marshall

Role of Responsible Person : Headteacher

Signature of Responsible Person : S Marshall

Signature of Headteacher

Signature of Chair of Governors

Date agreed:

Date to be reviewed: 31st August 2027

Our vision for St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School is to be 'a school with High Expectations for All, in the Light of Christ'. All pupils will be given every opportunity to achieve their potential and encouraged to learn about and develop their hidden talents in order to reach high levels of achievement. All members of our school community will be fully equipped to meet all pupils' needs through appropriate professional development. St Ethelbert's will be an outstanding school.

'Every child at St Ethelbert's is to fulfil their academic, creative, social, behavioural and emotional potential in the surroundings of a Catholic community, and in which each individual shares or respects the Catholic church and Christian way of Life.'

St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which pupils are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling education. We believe that homework plays an important part in education and the benefit of doing homework must be instilled at an early age so that independent study can be achieved.

We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will give careful consideration to ensure homework is well-balanced and consistent across the school.

This aims of this policy

This policy aims to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and pupils are aware of their responsibilities with regards to homework.
- Ensure that parents understand what is expected of their child.
- Encourage pupils to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Embed knowledge and support pupils' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents/carers and involve them in their child's learning, and to keep them informed about the work their child is undertaking.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Extend learning beyond the classroom.
- Give pupils further practice and a deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

Responsibilities

SLT are responsible for:

- Ensuring all members of staff are aware of the school's Homework Policy.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of this policy

- Answering any queries that teaching staff have regarding this policy and the school's practices.

Teachers are responsible for:

- Planning and setting up a regular programme of homework for pupils.
 - Providing an explanation of homework tasks and ensuring that all pupils understand what they have to do.
 - Ensuring all homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum. Setting homework that is appropriate to pupils' abilities.
 - Giving feedback to pupils i.e. marking feedback (highlight and comment)
 - Communicating with parents/carers if there is a problem regarding homework.
 - Rewarding quality work and praising pupils who regularly complete homework.
 - Responsible for speaking to parents/children if homework hasn't been completed
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- Parents/Carers are responsible for:
 - Supporting and encouraging their child with regards to completing homework.
 - Becoming involved in their child's homework and encouraging their child to have a positive attitude towards it.
 - Making sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
 - Providing suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
 - Praising their child and celebrating achievements with regards to their homework.
 - Informing teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operating with the school to find a solution.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Taking responsibility for their own learning and submitting completed work on time.
- Having a positive approach towards homework. Putting the same effort into homework as class work.
- Making sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seeking clarification if required.
- Taking pride in the presentation and content of their homework and performing to the best of their abilities.
- Work should be completed by the children, not parents.

The Importance of Structured Homework

At St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School, we believe homework is a vital means of helping to raise pupil achievement and enabling the school to offer some support to parents beyond the school day. As such, we believe homework requires full commitment by teachers, pupils and parents. Teachers at the school are required to set homework under this policy. However, we also believe that homework should never be too onerous, nor should it ever create stress within the child's family. We are also mindful of the need to encourage children to pursue out-of-school activities, e.g. swimming, ballet, Brownies, music lessons etc. Our aim is to create a healthy balance in family life. Therefore normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spellings and times tables and a structured approach to weekly homework is established.

Reading

The importance of reading at home cannot be over-emphasised and we hope that children will read for pleasure in their own time.

EYFS/Key Stage One pupils will be provided with a suitable school reading book linked to Little Wandle, which can be taken home to read with an adult. A Reading Record book will be provided for parents to sign when they have listened to or read to their child. Children also choose an additional book for their own pleasure (sharing book).

Pupils in Key Stage Two will be expected to take responsibility for their own reading books as necessary. Parents will be asked to listen to their child read and discuss the text together. The Reading Record should then be signed to indicate that it has been completed.

Whilst we understand the benefits of homework on raising pupil achievement, we also believe that it is the development of children's reading skills and the promotion of the love of reading for pleasure that has the greatest impact on raising pupil achievement.

Therefore, in order to support parents with reading at home, the school will provide sample focused questions to use when reading with children at home and ideas for reading through parent workshops.

Our approach to homework

The school understands that setting, marking and providing feedback on homework is a large contributor to the workload of teachers; therefore, SLT and teachers ensure that homework only takes place to positively impact pupils' progress.

Homework will be set weekly; children will receive it on a Thursday, and it will be due back in on the following Monday. Children will be set a variety of homework ranging from tasks set in their homework books to work being uploaded onto an online platform (Google classroom) where pupils and parents can view homework tasks – reducing printing costs and the number of lost homework sheets.

- o Pupils' weekly homework activity is designed to take around 20 – 60 minutes, depending on the age of the pupil.
- o Homework is marked every week and returned to the pupil.
- o Parents are encouraged to discuss any errors with their child. If they have any queries, they should make an appointment to see their child's teacher. Feedback from parents about their child's homework is also welcomed by the school.
- o The amount of homework set for pupils increases as they progress through their education. Teachers may occasionally set extra homework for the whole class if they deem it beneficial.

The table below shows expected homework. Tasks may be set in addition to the below activities.

EYFS - Nursery	Sharing book goes home
EYFS - Reception	Read a sharing book (chosen by child) Read book linked to Little Wandle (phonics) on a Thursday Complete tasks from the Homework Book
KS1	
Year 1	Read a sharing book (chosen by child) A Maths Task An English Task
Year 2	Read a sharing book (chosen by child) A Maths task An English task Spellings
KS2	
Year 3	Reading (3 x per week minimum) A Maths task An English task Spellings - Thursday to Thursday Times Tables Rockstars - Thursday to Thursday
Year 4	Reading (3 x per week minimum) A Maths task An English task Spellings - Thursday to Thursday Times Tables Rockstars - Thursday to Thursday
Year 5	Reading (3 x per week minimum) A Maths task An English task Spellings - Thursday to Thursday Times Tables Rockstars - Thursday to Thursday
Year 6	Reading (3 x per week minimum) A Maths task An English task Spellings - Thursday to Thursday Times Tables Rockstars - Thursday to Thursday

Pupils with SEND

A balanced approach to homework will be adopted for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the pupil's parents and the SENDco.

The school recognises that pupils with SEND may require specific tasks to be set, as outlined in their individual education plans.

While pupils with SEND may benefit from differentiated tasks separate from the homework received by other pupils, it is important that they also complete as much standard homework as possible.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every year by the Headteacher.