

# **St Paul's Church of England Primary School Oswaldtwistle**



***Working, learning, playing and worshipping together'***

## **Homework Policy**

**September 2023**

**Agreed by Governors: October 2023**

**Rationale:**

At St Paul's Church of England Primary School we believe that homework supports, extends and consolidates the learning covered in the classroom while supporting children to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

**This policy aims to:**

- Raise achievement;
- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school
- Ensure teachers, parents and carers have a clear understanding about expectations of themselves and pupils.

**The main purpose of homework is:**

- To encourage pupils to develop the skill, confidence and motivation to study independently at home effectively.
- To consolidate and reinforce the skills and understanding developed at school.
- To extend school learning through activities such as additional reading and research.
- To develop and sustain the involvement of parents in the management of their child's learning and to keep them informed about the work and progress their child is achieving.
- To explore the wide range of resources for learning at home e.g.: internet, library, adult knowledge and newspapers.
- To maintain good channels of communication between home and school.
- To offer pupils the opportunity to extend their learning by including optional, additional challenges or open ended questions.

**Homework at St Paul's Primary School – Key Principles:**

The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability. Sufficient time is allocated for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance. As the children progress through the school so the amount of homework increases. Teachers incorporate homework into their weekly planning and ensure that the tasks are differentiated (where appropriate), purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills. High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.

**Homework Guidelines for each Key Stage:**

At St Paul's we believe that the most important homework activity is **regular reading**. Suggested reading times are 5-10 minutes in Reception increasing to 15 minutes by Year 5 & 6. There is an expectation that reading at home will happen daily (5 times a week minimum). It is important for parents / carers to read with children and to discuss books, pictures and stories, even when they are in Year 6. Children's reading diaries are to be **signed by parents / carers daily**, after hearing children read.

**The nature and content of homework set, and the amount of time needed to complete homework will vary from year to year and from child to child. Senior leaders have produced a guide which can be found below, outlining what parents of children in each key stage can expect to be set for homework.** Homework will be a mixture of paper based

homework and online homework set on Do Jo. It is important that both types are completed.

### Homework in Reception

RECEPTION		
AREA	TASK TYPE	FREQUENCY
READING	Reading at home	Every day & Every week
PHONICS	A task linked to work completed in class that week	As needed
TOPIC/MATHS/LITERACY	4-5 different challenge activities linked to the current topic	Across a half term

### Homework in Key Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2

Key Stage 1 Years 1 & 2		
AREA	TASK TYPE	FREQUENCY
READING	Reading challenge/Reading at home	Daily for at least 10 minutes
SPELLINGS/PHONICS	One set of spellings to learn (where appropriate)	One set given & tested per week (Teacher discretion).
TOPIC/MATHS/LITERACY	4-5 different challenge/research activities linked to the current topic	Across a half term

### Homework in Lower Key Stage 2 – Years 3 and 4

Lower Key Stage 2 Years 3 & 4		
AREA	TASK TYPE	FREQUENCY
READING	Reading at home	At least 10 minutes reading daily

<b>SPELLINGS</b>	<b>New curriculum spellings – quantity to be decided by the class teacher</b>	<b>One set given &amp; tested per week (Teacher discretion).</b>
<b>WRITING/TOPIC</b>	<b>4-5 different challenge/research activities linked to the current topic</b>	<b>Across a half term</b>
<b>MATHS TABLES &amp; FACTS</b>	<b>Times table/key facts practice activity</b>	<b>Weekly</b>

### Homework in Upper Key Stage 2 – Years 5 and 6

<b>Key Stage 2 Years 5 &amp; 6</b>		
<b>AREA</b>	<b>TASK TYPE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>
<b>READING</b>	<b>Reading at home</b>	<b>At least 15 minutes reading daily</b>
<b>SPELLINGS</b>	<b>New curriculum spellings – quantity to be decided by the class teacher</b>	<b>One set given &amp; tested per week (Teacher discretion).</b>
<b>WRITING/TOPIC</b>	<b>4-5 different challenge activities linked to the current topic</b>	<b>Across a half term</b>
<b>MATHS FACTS/TABLES/SATS REVISION</b>	<b>Times table/key facts practice activity/SATS revision task</b>	<b>Weekly</b>

### **How you can help your child with their homework:**

Below is a list of ways that you as a parent can show your child that you value their homework and the time and effort spent completing it. St Paul's will also provide clear and regular reminders of their expectation when it comes to homework. As a school we hope that you will find this guidance helpful in supporting your child fully with their homework.

### ***You can show you value your child's homework by:***

- Providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support;
- Making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning;
- Encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set; ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time;
- Checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework.

### ***Additionally, you can support your child's development by:***

- Visits to libraries, museums etc.
- Cooking with them; taking your child swimming; playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games; watching informative TV programmes together
- Providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- Gardening and growing plants
- Using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- Attending any school workshops that may be on offer designed to enable Parents/Carers to support their child's learning
- Talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning

**Remember:**

Homework is about reinforcing, practicing and confidence building...

Enthusiasing your child about undertaking homework and modelling the high value of homework to them is of key importance. Make it fun!

**Reviewed: September 2025**  
**Review Date: September 2027**