



Homework Policy

Effective from 1st January 2023

Rationale

At Christ Church we believe that homework is an essential part of pupils' learning. In line with National Curriculum requirements, homework is set and children are encouraged to, and expected to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life.

- Homework is set regularly as a means of reinforcing and extending learning.
- Homework is differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils.
- Homework should be understood by pupils and parents, and not be seen as an onerous task.

Definition

Homework is defined as work set by the teacher to be done at home, either by the child alone or with the support of an older sibling, parent or carer. The main focus of homework will be numeracy and literacy, with occasional tasks to extend and enhance learning across the curriculum.

Homework will involve some or all of the following activities:

- Reading: independent, shared or paired reading, with possible activities to reinforce comprehension and understanding of texts as children progress through school.
- Spellings and vocabulary extension: learning sounds and spellings; activities to apply spelling rules and patterns to extended tasks.
- Research into an aspect of the curriculum as preparation for, extension to, consolidation of or follow up to work carried out in class.
- Learning number facts and practice of calculation, including problem solving (multiplication tables, number bonds, etc..).
- Written assignments in English and Maths.
- Handwriting
- Other tasks to extend work done in class, including topic-based work.

The nature, type and amount of homework will vary according to the age and ability of the pupil.

Entitlement

All children are entitled to have homework set by their teacher which is matched to their ability and needs. Parents are entitled to share in the learning of their child.

Why do we set homework?

Homework enables children to practise and extend skills learned in the classroom, and also gives pupils a chance to undertake research and additional learning, as required. It involves parents/carers in the children's work and we further believe that homework encourages and improves independent learning.

Aims

At Christ Church, we appreciate how important the links between home and school are, and the need for us to work together to ensure a good education for all children. It is for this reason that we believe that it is important that children have homework set that will support learning within the classroom. Homework will be carefully planned to extend learning, enhance and reinforce skills and understanding, and allow children to consolidate and improve their skills further.

Through the provision of a variety of activities and approaches to homework we aim to:

- Raise standards in all curriculum areas but particularly basic skills in maths and English.
- Create a sound partnership between parents and teachers with regard to children's learning.
- Consolidate/reinforce pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding of work covered in class.
- Improve pupils' attitudes to learning and independent learning skill.

Responsibilities:

Teachers

In setting and marking homework, teachers will:

- Give reasonable time for its completion.
 - Match tasks to time and as far as possible to the abilities of the children, differentiating where appropriate.
 - Monitor the timely completion of homework by children, and where this is not achieved, follow the schools agreed consequences.
 - Provide feedback to children, and their parents, on their progress through Class Dojo and any additional support needed in school.
 - Recognise and reward excellence in homework using appropriate consequences from the schools' behaviour policy to do so.
 - Provide additional advice to children on how to approach their homework where needed, and an opportunity to work on it together at school during a lunch or break time, either through homework clubs or ad hoc provision.
 - Provide guidance for parents on how/when homework should be completed during the 'Meet my Teacher' presentation at the beginning of the school year and additional advice as needed throughout the year to support learning at home and to help children with homework tasks.
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Parents

At Christ Church, we recognise the importance of developing a sound partnership between parents and children with reference to children's learning.

Parents will:

- Be encouraged to support the school's homework policy.
- Be encouraged to sit down and agree a homework schedule with their child/ren to make sure it is completed, and submitted, by the given deadline.
- Support their children with organising, and encouraging them to complete their homework, including some help where needed.
- Allow children to work and submit homework at their own level rather than coach them through the work themselves so the class teachers have an accurate understanding of the child's ability.

Please refer the appendix '**Guidance for parents**' when considering how you can best support your child.

Monitoring

The SLT will regularly review this policy on behalf of the Governing Body, alongside the whole staff team, and will monitor the quality of homework provision through Class Dojo monitoring.

Expectations

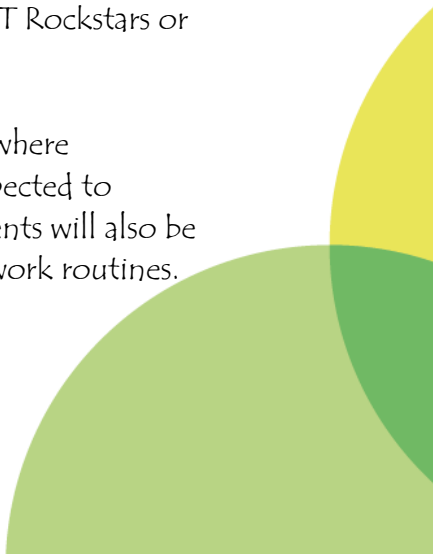
Teachers will expect children to complete any given homework tasks and submit evidence of this, where appropriate, via Class Dojo or hand it in to their teacher.

Where this is not achieved, teachers will remind the child verbally, giving a further 24 hours to submit their homework, offering the chance to go to 'homework club' during a lunchtime if support is needed.

Where homework is repeatedly not completed, provision will be made in school to provide the child with the opportunity to catch up on this missed opportunity. This will be done in an age appropriate response. For example:

- Children will be read with daily during lesson time.
- Extra spelling/times tables support will be given via interventions.
- Children will be encouraged to attend homework clubs, such as TT Rockstars or Maths homework club.

For year 6 children, to prepare them for secondary school, any children where homework is not handed in after 24 hours from the deadline, will be expected to complete it in school during break or lunch time the following day. Parents will also be informed and encouraged to support their child to improve their homework routines.



Appendix: Guidance for parents

How can parents help?

There are many ways you can help:

- Ask the children questions about what they are learning at school (talking helps everyone understand things more clearly).
- Play word and number games to consolidate early learning of letter sounds, common vocabulary and number bonds.
- Spend a little time, on a regular basis, listening to your child read and discussing the books they have brought home. Encourage your child to read words and books regularly (show them how important words are).
- Help them to form letters the way they are taught at school starting at the correct point.
- Test what has to be learned e.g. spellings, tables, number facts etc.
- Read what your child has written, and talk to them about their writing: Does it make sense? Is it correctly punctuated, etc.? Is their writing neat and accurate? Have they used exciting words?
- Encourage your child to check over his/her work.
- Help your child find out additional facts, e.g. by visiting the library or researching on the internet.

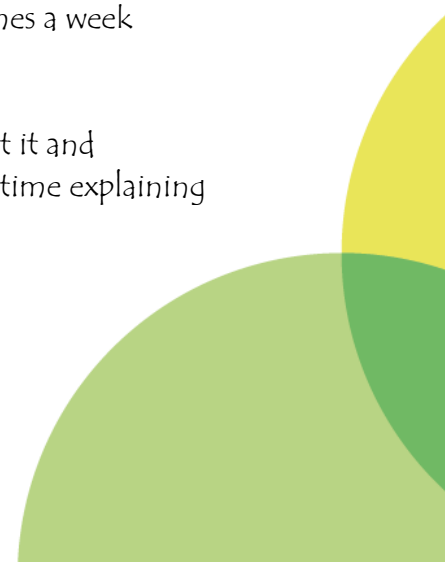
We ask for your support in seeing that homework is done conscientiously and in the best possible conditions. Time set aside for homework should be respected by the rest of the family. Try to make sure it becomes part of your child's daily routine.

Encourage your child to establish a homework routine which best suits them, not when they are becoming tired or hungry.

For younger children, little and often is best – 10–15 minutes daily is a good habit. As children become older they should be encouraged to sustain their concentration for longer periods of time, and to work with increasing independence. For example, it would be beneficial to get children into the habit of reading every evening. We appreciate this isn't always possible every day but a minimum of 3–4 times a week should be encouraged.

If a child struggles with an activity, try to avoid becoming anxious about it and approach your child's teacher as soon as you can. They will spend more time explaining the task to help you and your child.

What sort of homework should I expect for my child?



Homework tasks will depend on the age and ability of children, but in general terms the following can be expected:

Reception

Reading – when children are ready, they will bring their reading books home daily along with reading record books so you can share comments on progress and enjoyment with school staff.

Key Stage 1

Phonics – a task linked to the weekly focus sound is set once a week.

Reading – children are issued with a home-reading book to read with an adult daily.

Spellings – children to practise their spellings for that week.

BMBT sheets – children are encouraged to practise these.

Tasks related to topic work are occasionally set as optional homework.

Lower Key Stage 2

Reading – children are encouraged to read with an adult or independently daily.

Spellings – children to practise their spellings for that week.

Times tables practice – 15 minutes of TT Rockstars practise is expected per week plus BMBT sheets.

Tasks related to topic work are occasionally set as optional homework.

Upper Key Stage 2

Reading – children are encouraged to read with an adult or independently daily.

Spellings – children to practise their spellings for that week.

Times tables practice – 10 minutes of TT Rockstars practise per day encouraged.

An English skills task linked to class learning will be formally set once a week.

Maths homework linked to class learning (alternating between paper-based and MyMaths) is set once a week

Weekly reading comprehension homework is set for year 6 only introduced later in Autumn term.

Tasks related to topic work are occasionally set as optional homework.

It is expected that parents encourage greater independence as children move into upper Key Stage 2.