

# HOMEWORK POLICY

| HOMEWORK POLICY      |                          |                             |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| AGREED: OCTOBER 2016 | REVIEWED: SEPTEMBER 2018 | NEXT REVIEW: SEPTEMBER 2020 |

# Our Mission at St Charles' Catholic Primary School is to... LOVE, LEARN, GROW TOGETHER

# ST CHARLES' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework makes a specific and valuable contribution to the

- Consolidation and reinforcement of learning, progress and attainment especially in literacy and numeracy.
- Development of an effective partnership between the school and parents.
- Involvement of parents in their children's learning.
- Development of children as independent learners.

## Aims

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework 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.

In order to achieve our aims:

#### The school will

• Provide support for parents with information about homework.

### **Teachers will**

- Plan and set homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- Ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- Mark and give feedback about homework.
- Inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

# Parents will

- Support the child in completing homework.
- Ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- Provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.

# Children will

- Ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- Put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- Hand the homework in on time.

### **Expectations**

Children in KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 will be expected to complete homework tasks and return them to school on the correct day.

# **HOMEWORK IN KEY STAGE 1 (Years 1 and 2)**

For children in KS1 we encourage parents to work together with their child to support them with their homework. The emphasis remains on Literacy and reading but we include ways in which children can be supported with important Numeracy skills.

#### **READING**

Reading on a regular basis is vital when children are in Year 1 and Year 2. Children will bring their reading books home every evening and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words, sounding out the word, looking at the pictures and looking for words within words are ways in which the child can read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that the child has understood what they have read. Children will have a reading record which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read with their child.

# **HIGH FREQUENCY WORDS / SPELLINGS**

Children will have regular phonics lessons throughout KS1 which will also include ways in which children can build up a secure sight vocabulary. It is vital that children build up a bank of words which they can read and spell on sight. Children will bring home words, when appropriate, to read, write and learn. Parents can help children to learn these by practising regularly.

In Year 2, spellings will be sent home on Mondays and children will be tested in school on Fridays.

#### **TALK for WRITING**

Before children can write independently, they have to be able to think of a sentence, say a sentence and then write a sentence. It is vital that children are encouraged to speak in full sentences and think of different ways to describe familiar objects and settings. Playing "talk" games will greatly improve vocabulary.

#### **NUMERACY**

In Year 2 the children will receive weekly set homework for Numeracy. In Year 1 the children will not receive set work, however there are important skills that children should have in place **by the end of Year** 2. Parents can support their child by giving them lots of opportunities to practise these skills.

- Children should be confident counting in 2s, 5s & 10s both forwards and backwards.
- Children should be confident with times tables x2/x5/x10
- Children should be able to double each number up to 20.
- Children should be able to halve each even number up to 20.
- Children should know the number bonds of all numbers up to 20. This means that they should know how to make each number, eg. 5 can be made by 0+5, 1+4, 2+3, 4+1, 5+0
- Children should be able to tell the time when it is o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past on digital and analogue clocks.
- Children should be confident using money. They should know the names of the coins and they should have experience of adding, taking away and finding change.
- Children should have secure counting skills (easily recognising the number before or after any given number), recognising numbers to 100 and where they are on a 100 square.

# **HOMEWORK IN KEY STAGE 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skill of independent learning. It is important that parents support their children but good habits of independent study should be encouraged.

The main focus for homework in Key Stage 2 continues to be the reinforcement of key skills in Literacy and Numeracy, however children will be given more varied tasks in other areas of the curriculum.

#### READING

Children must read for a minimum of 10 minutes each school night. Children will read texts that are more detailed and will take longer to read and will read all types of texts including non-fiction. During these homework sessions children may read to an adult or read to themselves in the presence of an adult. All children need to develop a clear understanding of the text that sometimes will go beyond the literal meaning so following the reading activity, the story and characters should be talked about and new words discussed.

We ask that an adult signs the reading record to ensure the child has read. We would also encourage children or adults to record any home or library books that they may have read in addition to their home reading book.

# **GRAMMAR / PUNCTUATION**

Children will be given one exercise to complete each week.

#### **SPELLINGS**

The spelling set will be based upon common spelling patterns for each year group. Spellings will be sent home on Monday and will be tested in school on Friday.

# **NUMERACY**

Daily times tables. Children should be able to recite their times tables, and be able to answer questions posed to them quickly and without hesitation.

One "MyMaths" exercise may be set each week. Written Maths homework will be given weekly.

# **OTHER AREAS**

On occasions, work could be set which could be linked to any other curriculum area, Science, Geography, History and so on. It could take many forms: preparing a talk, completing a piece of research or conducting an interview

The nature of this work may be more open ended than in other areas and sufficient time will be given to complete any such homework tasks.