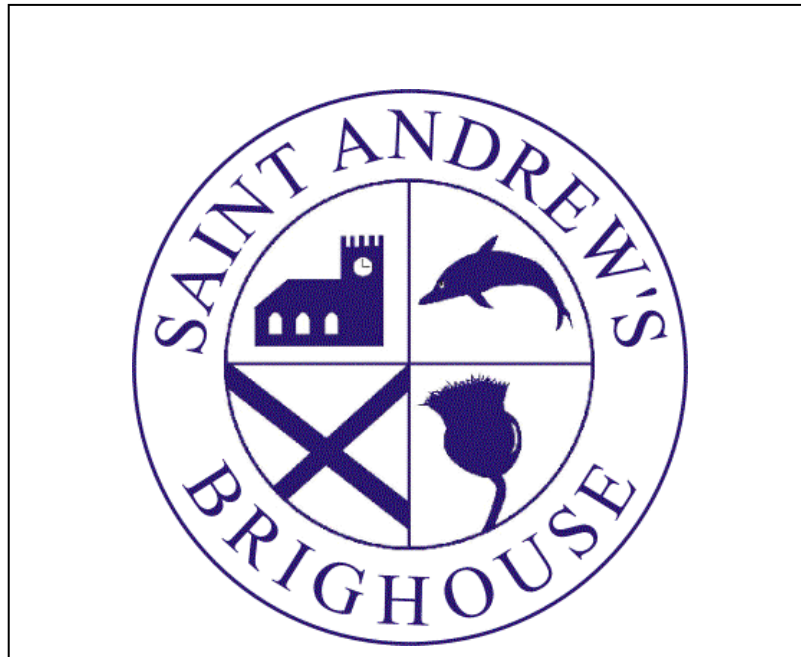


# St Andrew's CE (VA) Junior School

## Homework Policy



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Version	1.0
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Author	St. Andrew's CE (VA) Junior School
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Version	Date	Description	Revision author
1.0	September 2017	Updated	AJ



## **ST. ANDREW'S CE (VA) JUNIOR SCHOOL**



*"Promoting Excellence Within a Caring Christian Community"*

### **Homework Policy**

#### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1** Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

#### **2 Rationale for homework**

- 2.1** Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.
- 2.2** Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

#### **3 Aims and objectives**

- 3.1** The aims and objectives of homework are:
- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
  - to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
  - to promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;

- to enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- to consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

## **4 Types of homework**

- 4.1** We set a variety of homework activities, which are appropriate for individual abilities. For example at Key Stage 2 we give children the sort of homework activities which expect them to do tasks more independently. We set literacy and numeracy homework routinely each week and we expect the children to consolidate and reinforce learning done in school through practice at home. We also set homework as a means of helping the children to deepen their learning as well as to ensure that prior learning has been understood.

## **5 Amount of homework**

- 5.1** We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school. We expect children in years 3 and 4 to spend approximately 15–20 minutes per night on homework and children in years 5 and 6 to spend approximately 30 minutes per night. This will include reading their reading books.
- 5.2** We provide a homework club to support children in completing their homework.

## **6 Pupils with additional needs**

- 6.1** We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs or other additional needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework to pupils who are named on the register of special needs, we refer to the Personal Provision Plans (PPPs).

## **7 The role of parents**

- 7.1** Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

**7.2** We ask parents to check the homework their child has completed at least once a week. Parents are also sent our Home/School Agreement annually. Half termly curriculum sheets are also sent home so that parents are aware of the topics and work being covered.

**7.3** If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the headteacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, parents should contact the governing body.

## **8 Monitoring and review**

**8.1** It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the governing body that deals with curriculum issues. Parents complete an annual questionnaire, and our governing body pays careful consideration to any concern that is raised at that time concerning homework. Our governing body may, at any time, request from our headteacher a report on the way homework is organised in our school.

**Head Teacher signed:**

**Chair of Governors signed:**

**Date: September 2017**

**Renew: September 2020**