



St Ambrose Catholic Primary School

'Follow the example of Jesus'

Homework Policy

Approved by the Governing body in September 2019

Signed _____ Chair of Governors

Signed _____ Headteacher

To be reviewed and revised in September 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

Follow the example of Jesus

To do this we will:

- Show respect by being friendly to everyone, looking after everything that God has created and treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves. (Christ centred)
- Provide a high quality education which enables everyone to reach their full potential within a caring and supportive environment. (Education)
- Celebrate the school's place in the community and the wider world. (Community)

Objectives:

(Christ Centred)

- Provide quality collective worship and enriching liturgical celebrations.
- Enable our children to acquire an excellent religious education, through a well taught and resourced Come and See programme.
- Encourage all to develop their understanding of and relationship with God, while at the same time respecting that others choose to express their faith in different ways.
- Be positive role models, who treat each other with respect and are willing to forgive and be forgiven.

(Education)

- As teachers, to be both inspirational and creative so that every child's achievements are recognised and celebrated and that they are encouraged to become independent learners.
- To provide a safe and happy learning environment so that every child feels valued and secure within our school family.
- To encourage regular communication with parents by creating a positive and caring support network for the extended school family.

(Community)

- To join with the parish and local community to celebrate special occasions throughout the year.
- To enhance the curriculum by uniting as one all of the generations in the community and fostering mutual respect.
- To provide opportunities for the children to visit places of interest and experience a range of different cultural events in order for them to gain a better appreciation of the world around them and to 'fire' their own aspirations.
- To participate in charitable activities and be able to empathise with the needs of others.

At St Ambrose Catholic Primary School, we believe that homework develops the close partnership between parents and school through involving parents actively in the management of their children's learning and achievement. It lays the foundation for children's future education by encouraging them to develop the skills and confidence to learn independently. It also helps develop working patterns which will serve the child well in the future.

OUR AIMS

- To support the development of children's reading.
- To extend the learning that occurs in school.
- To develop a good pattern of working at home.
- To help children become independent learners.

Staff at St Ambrose recognise the importance of sharing quality reading time with children. Studies have shown that reading to children has many benefits including, broadening vocabulary, develops confidence for independent reading and improves writing skills. Therefore, we urge parents to regularly share a wide range of books, as well as their school reading books.

At St Ambrose, we believe reading underpins every area of the school curriculum so the focus of our homework is reading. ALL children are expected to read daily AT HOME to an adult.

At St Ambrose we follow the **L.I.G.H.T** approach to homework

Advice for Parents – Learning at Home: L.I.G.H.T. – Learning is Good at Home Together

Do's and Don'ts to make L.I.G.H.T. work

Do – give lots of encouragement, praise and ensure your child gives of their best

Do – show interest and talk with your child about their learning

Do – share stories, poems and books together

Do – jointly decide where and when homework should be done

Do – relax and enjoy this quality time of sharing the learning

Don't – show anxiety or impatience

Don't – do the work yourself. Leave ownership with your child

Don't – hesitate to ask teacher for help

Don't – pressurise your child or overdo the session

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents and Families

Parents/ families clearly have a very significant role to play with regard to homework.

They can work together with school by:

- Making it clear to their children that they value homework
- Ensuring that deadlines are met
- Ensuring, where possible, that homework is done in a reasonably peaceful, suitable place
- Giving lots of praise and encouragement while homework is being completed
- Guiding their children if necessary while doing their homework, **but not doing it for them.**

Children

Children are expected to be responsible for taking homework home and returning it at the appropriate time.

Children are responsible for ensuring that the presentation of their homework is of the same standard as their class work.

Teachers

Teachers are responsible for setting and monitoring appropriate homework. They are also responsible for setting an appropriate amount of homework.

Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the policy and for considering any complaints.

IF HOMEWORK IS NOT DONE

If a child has been unable to complete homework because of family commitments, then parents are asked to write a note to the teacher. If a child has problems with the homework, then parents should let the teacher know. If a child has no clear reason for not completing homework, then the homework will be expected to be completed alongside the next piece of homework given. At the teacher's discretion, children may be kept in at break or lunch to complete their overdue homework. Parents will be informed if this happens regularly.

If parents do not wish their child to do homework, they will be asked to discuss the effects of this with the Headteacher, since it could have an impact on their child's progress, especially in comparison with their peers. However, families should note that not completing homework is a choice of the family for which school cannot be held responsible for, nor the impact this will have on a child's academic progress and attainment.

OUTLINE OF HOMEWORK BY YEAR GROUP

Foundation Stage

Home learning log
Reading books, when appropriate
Words relating to their reading books

Year 1

Home reading books
Spellings
Maths learning e.g. number bonds

Year 2

Home reading books
Spellings
Maths learning e.g. Times tables: 2,5,10

Year 3

Home reading book
Spellings
Maths learning e.g. Times tables: 2,3,4,5,8,10

Years 4, 5 and 6

Home reading book
Spellings
Maths learning e.g. Times tables: all up to 12x12 (including corresponding division facts)

On occasions, homework relating to a current topic may be set e.g. project work, research and/ or background reading. In the spring term, Year 6 homework will become more structured to enable them to become high school ready.