

Carleton St Hilda's CE Primary School



Carleton St Hilda's Primary School Homework Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission statement 'Open hearts, open minds, learning together with God' underpins all the work that we do.

Rationale

At Carleton St Hilda's we believe that every child is a gift from God, and as such brings with them unique talents and characteristics which are to be nurtured and celebrated. Teaching and learning across all areas is set within a Christian context and our core set of Christian Values underpins our whole school curriculum as well as the daily life of the school.

We believe that education is a life-long process. A child's education does not cease when he /she leaves our school premises; learning at home is an essential part of good education.

"Homework" is any work or activity completed outside lesson time, either alone, with parents, or others and homework makes an important contribution to progress at school.

Aims

At St Hilda's, 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.

Homework will be used to:

- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school
- Make use of a range of resources outside the classroom to enhance learning opportunities
- Help pupils develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning
- Develop confidence, independence and the self-discipline needed for personal study in preparation for secondary school and beyond,

Guidelines

1. Each teacher is responsible for setting homework for their own class,
2. Every effort is made to ensure that children and parents understand what is expected of them.
3. Homework is matched to the age and ability of the pupils.
4. Homework encompasses a variety of tasks, only some of which are based on a written activity.
5. Homework increases in amount, time and structure as children progress through the school.
6. Homework will be given out on a **Friday** and collected in the following **Wednesday**.

Homework expectations:

Early Years Foundation Stage:

- Each child will have a home/school book. Each week there will be a learning letter from the EYFS Team. It will outline some of the key learning that has taken place during the week so that parents have an understanding of what their child has been doing in school. There will be suggestions of follow up activities that can be done at home. Parents can include photos or writing (in the home/school book) about any follow up activities they have engaged in and these are then shared in class. (an example in the appendix)
- Each child will also have a reading book, sound cards and high frequency words. These will be practised both at home (at least 3 times per week) and in school.

In Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2)

- Each child will have a reading book and where appropriate sound cards to practise (at least 3 times per week)
- There will be one piece of home work each week – **either** maths or literacy based (homework book)
- Weekly spelling will be set and tested the following week (Thurs/Fri) or when the child is ready to be tested (Y1)
- Half term challenge (6 in a year for over the holiday period – see example in the appendix)

In Lower Key Stage 2

- Each child will have a reading book and the expectation is 15 minutes of reading (at least 3 times per week)
- There will be **one** piece of home work each week – **either** maths or literacy based (homework book)
- Weekly spellings will be set and tested the following week (Thurs/Fri). Three of the spellings should be written as formal sentences (remembering punctuation)
- Children will be expected to learn their times tables. They will be encouraged to use TTRS (Times Table Rock Star) and there will be regular tests in school.
- Half term challenge (6 in a year for over the holiday period – see example in the appendix)

In Upper Key Stage 2

- Each child will have a reading book and the expectation is 20 minutes of reading per day
- There will be **two** pieces of home work each week – maths and literacy based (homework book)
- Weekly spellings will be set and tested the following week. 3 of the spelling should be written as formal sentences (remembering punctuation)
- Children will be expected to learn their times tables. They will be encouraged to use TTRS (Times Table Rock Star) and there will be regular tests in school.
- On occasions Topic Based (research homework) will also be set to support the learning in class.
- In Year 6 – SATS revision and practise books will also be used to help the children to prepare for the assessments. There are extra resources available to Year 6 which can be accessed through the school web site – Learning tab

Expectations and Feedback

All homework given reflects work covered in class and the needs and abilities of the children. It is expected that homework be completed to the best of each child's ability. Feedback will be given to pupils, as appropriate. Spellings and homework are adapted according to ability and for those pupils with special educational needs.

No homework should ever cause undue stress. Please let us know if any homework is problematic for your child and then we can help. Literacy and mathematics homework should never take longer than half an hour unless your child is interested and doing voluntary extension work. Again, please let us know if there is a problem.

In Upper Key Stage 2 we are developing the skills needed for High School. Therefore, children who do not complete homework on a regular basis will be expected to stay in at playtimes to complete it. To support children with this (as we appreciate, they have out of school commitments) our Y5 and Y6 children will be offered the opportunity to attend homework club which will be available every Monday lunchtime (12-12.30).

Homework works best when it is a partnership between home and school and we appreciate your support with ensuring children complete their homework on time. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.