



St. James' Blackburn
CE Primary School

Vision Statement

Guided by our Christian Values, we endeavour to inspire, cherish and serve our school community. We strive to be exceptional in all we do. We will nurture a love of all God's children. We seek to build respect for all faiths and beliefs.

'Serve one another in love' (Galatians 5.13)

Mission Statement

Together we value, inspire and develop each other within a happy, safe community based on Christian values and respect for other faiths.

'Show respect to everyone' (Peter 1 2.17)

LOVE

'Serve one another in love' (Galatians 5.13)

RESPECT

'Show respect to everyone' (Peter 1 2.17)

COURAGE

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'
(Joshua 1.9)

Home Learning Policy

Date Agreed by Governors: 04/07/2019

Governor Review Date: 04/07/2021

School Vision

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School Mission Statement

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School Values

The school has 9 school values underpinned by 3 core Christian Values of:

Courage

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' (Joshua 1.9)

Love

'Serve one another in love' (Galatians 5.13)

Respect

'Show respect to everyone' (Peter 1 2.17)

At St James' Church of England Primary School we strive to be exceptional in all that we do and ensure that the curriculum and its delivery reflect this vision. We are committed to high quality teaching and learning to raise standards of achievement for all pupils'.

Staff have been consulted in developing this policy, which summarises expectations and common working practices. It reflects what has been agreed in terms of approach and consistency and makes explicit the exceptional practice to which the school aspires. It also reflects the mission and values of the school and supports its vision.

Home Learning

Learning at home is an essential part of a balanced education. Regular homework is important as it gives pupils the opportunity to practise and reinforce the learning undertaken in school and practise and consolidate skills needed to be successful at school and in later life. Homework could be revision, practise, rehearsing, reading, writing, researching or any work taken outside of the curriculum time which reinforces, extends or enriches current learning.

Aim and Purpose of Home Learning

The aim of home learning is to support the learning of each child with the co-operation of parents/carers. The purpose of homework is to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning and for parents, pupils and school to work together. It also aims to enable children to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance, developing skills that will prepare them for future work.

Roles and Responsibilities

Children are expected to:

- Take ownership of their own learning through completing and returning the homework they are given in time.
- Try their best and complete the work to a high standard.
- Take responsibility for organising any information or equipment they may need by making sure they take home their homework books and reading bags as required.
- Ensure homework planners are up to date and brought to school daily.

Parents/Guardians are expected to:

- Read regularly with their child, discussing, questioning and exploring the text.
- Update homework planners to ensure reading progresses rapidly.
- Encourage children to complete homework tasks in time and to a high standard.
- Promote the importance of good basic skills, through revision, practice, memorising and extension (reading, spellings, times tables, number bonds and number agility).
- Encourage children to keep trying with difficult tasks and support where necessary.
- Provide a quiet suitable place where their child can do their homework.
- Provide suitable resources for their child.

Staff are expected to:

- Ensure parents and children have a clear understanding of homework expectations e.g. through parent meetings and curriculum newsletters.
- Provide a range of homework to promote, secure, extend and develop their understanding and progression through the curriculum.
- Ensure children understand the importance of high standards of homework and the tasks to be completed.
- Monitor and mark the completion of homework in line with school's Teaching and Learning Assessment policy.
- Respond to children's efforts, provide encouragement and use praise and rewards to encourage and celebrate children's efforts.
- Inform parents, if children regularly fail to complete homework or if homework is not completed to a high standard. Staff will investigate the reasons for homework not being completed before responding with sanctions. If necessary, staff will discuss further this with parents or carers.

Home Learning Organisation

Children are expected to read at home daily with at home. Children will be given spellings to learn and basic number skills including practising timetables, number bonds or number agility for a weekly test.

Children are also given the opportunity to complete creative topic homework. These tasks will enrich learning opportunities and could include investigations, independent research and applying skills and knowledge across a range of areas.

Suggested Time Spent on Home Learning

The following guidelines indicate how much time pupils of different ages might reasonably be expected to spend on homework.

Year	Minutes of daily homework
Foundation Stage & KS1	10-15
Lower KS2 – Year 3 & 4	15-20
Upper KS2 – Year 5 & 6	20-25

Types of Home Learning

Reading

Reading books are to be taken home every day and are changed regularly in school. Key questions may also be set to support parents questioning when reading.

Phonics and spelling

From Year 1 – Year 6 spellings will be sent home weekly and are to be practised consistently throughout the week to ensure learning is embedded. Reception will send home letter sounds and tricky words.

Mathematics

Mathematics homework will be aimed at improving basic skills by rehearsing and securing number facts such as times tables and number calculation agility. This will be practised/tested weekly to ensure learning is taking place. In Reception, these skills will be practised throughout the week.

Topic

Topic based homework will be issued at the start of term for children to select tasks to complete. This will be based on history, geography, RE or science topics which may have been already studied or will soon be studied in class. These will have close links with the literacy books and objectives being studied.

Internet

Various internet based learning is provided for the children to access to independently enhance their own learning or as part of a set homework task. These cover mathematics, Literacy, and reading. All children are familiar with the processes of the internet learning provided.

Recording Home Learning

At the start of each academic year children will be given a Homework Planner. Lost homework planners will endure a cost for replacement. On-going Literacy and Maths homework can be commented on in the weekly records by parents and teachers.

All homework will be sent home weekly and is expected to be of a good standard of presentation.

An additional homework book (A4 exercise book) for topic homework will be sent home at the start of term with the topic homework grid. These will allow children to record their topic homework tasks. Staff will ensure that these are monitored and children receive written or verbal feedback on completed tasks. Good homework is celebrated through head teacher awards, star of the week certificates, dojos and stickers/rewards.

Equal Opportunities

Staff will ensure that the tasks set are appropriate to meet the needs of all children, including those with special educational needs as well as those requiring further challenge.

Homework tasks, planners and resources may be adapted to meet the needs of individual children.

Monitoring and Evaluation

To ensure that the policy directly contributes to the quality of teaching and learning, the provision of homework will be regularly monitored. Homework planners, books and tasks will be monitored by senior staff.