



St. Gabriel's CofE Primary School

St Gabriel's CE Primary School



Homework Policy 2024



Updated: 14.10.24 by Mark Nunn- Assistant Head

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In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

Homework at St Gabriel's is not compulsory, instead it is strongly encouraged through a range of tasks that if practised will enable students to participate in classroom activities to a fuller extent. It is also strongly encouraged through providing children with the control over what is studied, when it is studied, how it is studied and what is produced as a result. Homework at St Gabriel's hopes to enrich a child's educational experience rather than act as a burden.

Our school utilises an online platform – Google Classrooms – to enhance any work that is completed at home- students are given the opportunity to use this platform to post digital copies of any work samples that are completed at home.

Teaching and learning outside the classroom aims to:

1. Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future.
2. Promote extensive reading and exposure to a broad range of texts.
3. Become fluent in the fundamentals of maths, developing their conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately.

Frequency and expectations of homework across the school:

- Homework is not compulsory at St Gabriel's
- Tasks may be provided to children via Google Classroom or by hard copy
- Homework will be issued on a Friday and may be returned the following Wednesday
- Work will consist of timetables/arithmetic and a spelling list with word work
- Reading every day is compulsory and Reading will be monitored daily by class staff
- Genius Work (KS2) will commence at the beginning of each half term and will be monitored weekly. Presentations will take place at the end of every half-term

Reception – Year 2

- Daily reading
- Phonics/spelling
- Maths

Year 2 - 6:

- Daily reading
- Spelling list
- Timetables/arithmetic

→ **Handwriting tasks may be set for individuals identified by the class teacher.**

→ **If a child persistently does not complete homework or reading, then the teacher may contact the parents and ask to speak to them in order for school and home to work in partnership for the benefit of the child.**

Reading:

- All pupils in the school are expected to read daily for an age appropriate length of time
 - EYFS - 10 minutes
 - KS1 – 15 minutes
 - LKS2 – 20 minutes
 - UKS2 – 30 minutes
- It is recommended that KS1 pupils read daily to an adult to ensure accuracy and fluency.
- Every child in school is expected to record their reading in a reading logbook every night.
- Parents are expected to sign the reading record books each night (7 days-per-week – including weekends)
- A member of school staff is expected to check the reading record book during the school day, before it is returned to the pupils for reading at night. It is also the responsibility of the class teacher to keep a daily log (available on request) of signed reading logs – this will inform conversations with parents, staff meetings and parents evening presentations.
- Teachers should guide children in selecting an age-appropriate book to read from a mixture of genres and fiction & non-fiction. They will also encourage children to read from the St. Gabriel's reading lists (available on



our website). Book reports need to be completed by children when they finish reading a text. This can take the place of reading for the night and should only be completed by KS2 children.

- In Reception and Year 1, the teacher chooses the book and it will reflect the phonics sounds being taught that week.

Spelling:

- Pupils will be given a spelling list to learn and are expected to practise these words on a daily basis. They will be tested at the end of the week. Words are based on the common exception word list and spelling skills for their year groups.
- Practising the weekly spelling list will also ensure that children are able to fully participate in Buzz Off.

Maths:

- Homework activities for mathematics may consist of both arithmetic based tasks to improve mathematical fluency done at school and/or times-tables practise.
- In Reception and KS1, tasks should consist of both written, hands on and practical learning activities that encourage parents and pupils to work together.

Optional Half-termly tasks:

On a half-termly basis, teachers may send home a worksheet or project that prepares pupils for topics coming up in the next half term.

- Activities should be based around history, geography or science topics or could also include upcoming prominent events.

Genius Work:

Genius Work is work that is aimed at encouraging students to become independent learners and allows them to develop skills and understanding in areas that they are particularly interested. Genius Work is currently an optional Homework task for KS2 students.

- All KS2 classes will dedicate some class time to Genius Work in the first week of every half term to allow students to select an appropriate task.
- School will act as a facilitator in the process by helping in sourcing materials and resources.
- Each week, students will demonstrate verbally what they have achieved and provide some evidence of what they have completed. This will happen on alternating weeks.
- At the end of the term, students will be provided with time during class to present their work to the class should they wish to.
- Classes will also have the opportunity to present some of their Genius Work in the final Tuesday assembly of each half term.
- It is strongly encouraged that parents contribute to their child's Genius Work in any way but it is essential to remember to allow the child to be responsible for the task.
- There is no expectation to spend money on Genius Work. All tasks should utilise common household and school materials. Parents may spend money on these projects should they wish to.
- Genius Work is not compulsory.

Pitch and activities

- Activities should complement the Teaching & learning policy by offering pupils the opportunity to consolidate and practice skills at home.
- Pitch of the activities should be taken from the National curriculum and may be differentiated.

Feedback

- Homework will be sighted by either the class teacher or support staff. It is up to the teacher's discretion to the frequency and type of feedback.
- Any work that is sent home will not be marked by class staff.

Extra Homework (KS2 only)

- Parents may request extra work for their children in KS2 only but this is the responsibility of the child and not the teacher.
- Each KS2 class will have a box of extra resources that will be made readily available to all children. If a parent requests extra work, the teacher will inform the parent that the child is welcome to take as many resources from the box as they like.
- This work will not be marked by class staff.

Links to other policies:

- Teaching and learning
- Remote learning policy