

BATHWICK ST. MARY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME LEARNING POLICY

Our School Policies should be understood as part of the overall strategy of the School, and put into practice within the context of our Vision, Aims and Values as a Church of England School, with particular focus on the aims and outcomes of the "Every Child Matters" Agenda and the promotion of equality (race, disability, gender and background).

Home Learning can be influential in pupils' learning through supporting and extending the school curriculum. From the early years onwards, the work that children do at home complements and reinforces knowledge gained and skills taught in school. Home Learning can provide a wider understanding of aspects of learning by encouraging dialogue between Home and School, and further developing the Home/School partnership. We pay particular attention to the needs of 'Children Looked After' (through our designated teacher for 'Children Looked After', Mrs Elliott) and to any children who may lack particular resources or support at home.

Aims

1. To reinforce links between home and school
2. To reinforce and practice particular taught skills
3. To ensure completion of set tasks
4. To provide extension activities
5. To develop personal study skills (in preparation for further education / future study)
6. To provide an opportunity for personal research
7. To develop skills and knowledge to use the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - age and stage appropriate

Guidelines

1. Reception children will take home Jolly Phonics books as required. All children are expected to read at home on a daily basis
2. From Y1 onwards all children are given spellings to learn each week
3. Children (Y2-Y6) are encouraged to learn times tables which are relevant to their age and stage of development. Children are expected to know all times tables (up to and including 12 x 12) by the end of Y4.
4. On occasions, KS1 children will be asked to research topic-based information to bring in to school by a given date
5. The teacher may give children in Y3 to Y6 written home learning, which reinforces concepts taught, or provides practice in basic skills
6. In KS2, set home learning should be returned by an agreed deadline, to the teacher who set the work. Children should refer to the home learning timetable displayed in each classroom and sent out at the beginning of the year to all parents. Class teachers need to ensure parents are aware of the timetable and any deadlines expected
7. Parents are encouraged to take responsibility for the child's completion of home learning
8. Written home learning that is set each week is monitored and may be initialled by the teacher. It is sometimes discussed with the children but will not be marked in detail. Where projects are set covering longer timescales, these are either assessed with written comments and/or assessed whilst being presented to the class.

9. Where necessary, a worked example will be given so parents are able to effectively support their child
10. Parents will be informed if children do not complete home learning regularly.
11. In the Lower Juniors, children will be introduced to open-ended home-learning projects. In the upper juniors, home-learning projects are set alongside discrete weekly tasks and may be open-ended, cross-curricular, personalised and involve the VLE as appropriate.

Conclusion

Home Learning provides additional opportunities for pupils to reinforce learning particularly in basic skills and may be used to encourage independent study skills (including 'How to Learn skills') as children grow older.

It is important that parents are involved and take a keen interest in work completed at home, as encouragement inspires children's confidence. The enhanced awareness of areas of learning and children's progress establishes a useful dimension to home/school dialogue, where a true partnership clearly benefits the child.

This policy is written in accordance with and having due regard to our schools vision & values and all other school policies which impact across all curriculum areas.

This policy was agreed by staff in September 2016

This policy was agreed by the Standards & Curriculum Committee at its meeting held on 15th September 2016

This policy was adopted by the Governing Body at its meeting held on 4th October 2016

Signature of Chairperson of Governing Body

Next Review Date: Annually (or earlier due to statutory guidance/internal review)