

ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



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HOMEWORK POLICY **(School Policy)**

Ownership: Curriculum Committee

Document Date: Autumn 2024

Review Date: Autumn 2025

Pupils in St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School are happy, confident and very proud of their school. They clearly understand their mission statement, 'Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him.' They can quote scripture to give examples of how they do their best to follow Jesus every day. Pupils explain that if they ever feel worried about something they are confident that adults will help them in a discreet and caring way. They are fully aware of their responsibilities towards the more vulnerable members of society and can reference Catholic social teaching when discussing their work with the local foodbank.

Catholic Schools Inspectorate October 2024

Pupils enjoy school. They respond well to the high expectations of staff. Pupils strive to do their best and achieve well. Pupils are extremely kind and caring. They frequently give up their free time to help each other. Lessons are free from disruption and lunchtimes are a buzz of happy and harmonious play.

Ofsted May 2024

Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him

The staff of this school are fully committed to the learning and achievement of all pupils and are supportive of all manageable strategies to meet that end.

The Purpose of Homework

1. We believe that homework helps to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school.
2. Homework is valuable in that it consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
3. Homework exploits resources for learning, of all kinds, at home.
4. Work done at home extends school learning.
5. Homework encourages pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
6. Homework in RE may take the form of art, research or pre-learning.

For our Key Stage 1 children, homework assists us to develop a partnership with parents or carers, and involving them actively in children's learning is the key purpose. At this stage, the activities children do at home is not necessarily described as 'homework'.

As the children get older homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning. This increasingly becomes its main purpose.

Making Homework Manageable

It is vital to remember that pupils usually return home from school tired and therefore parents should ensure that their children are given a rest and refreshment before any homework tasks are undertaken. Parents are asked to make the homework area as conducive to concentration as possible. Parents are also asked to show an interest in the homework, assisting if appropriate and praising on completion.

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable for pupils and parents on a day-to-day basis.

The amount of work set by teachers should always be moderate in time terms. If homework is taking more than the time set out below, or if parents are concerned about the tasks, the school should be approached immediately. The junior children have a diary which records set homework and it can be used to communicate messages between the parent/carer and the teacher.

If a pupil is unable to complete homework for any reason supported by the parent, the parental signature in the diary will suffice as explanation. If a pupil consistently fails to complete homework, the parents will be contacted by phone.

Time Allocation

The letter sent to you from the child's teacher at the beginning of the school year will give a clear indication of the pattern of homework and the time allocation usually expected to be set aside for homework activities. However, the precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of tasks set and the way they are used to support learning.

EYFS

Reading and other activities that help develop an understanding of the world around them.

Years 1 and 2 1 hour per week
(reading, spellings, other literacy and number work or other curriculum work)

Years 3 - 6 1.5 hours per week
(literacy and numeracy plus occasional assignments in other subjects)

In preparation for their SATs tests and transition to Secondary School, our children in Year 6 will be given additional homework.

Daily reading is expected.

Years 1 – 6 are expected to learn their spellings each week.

Juniors must learn their multiplication tables each week.

Special Educational Needs

The SEN co-ordinator will liaise with the class teacher to set appropriate homework for children with special educational needs.

Monitoring and Evaluating

The teaching staff and Governors will review the efficiency and effectiveness of the homework policy annually.

The views of parents and pupils are expressed to the teaching staff will be taken into account when the policy is reviewed.

A positive approach to learning and good quality homework produced by individual pupils will be the success criteria.