



## *St. Wulstan's Catholic Primary School*

### **Homework Policy**

#### **Mission Statement**

*As a Catholic school, St Wulstan's seeks to enable each child to walk in faith with Christ, loving Him and each other. With the help of our families, our parish and our local community, we will do our best to use the gifts that God has given us to make our world a richer place.*

#### **Introduction**

This policy was developed following a whole school review of homework and sets out clearly the purpose of homework and the roles of teachers, children and their parents relating to homework.

#### **Aims**

##### **Through this policy we aim to:**

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do
- Ensure progression and consistency of approach throughout the school
- Use homework as a tool to help raise standards of attainment
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning
- Practise and consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in literacy and numeracy
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently
- Prepare Year 6 pupils for transfer to secondary school

#### **The Nature of Homework**

Homework can take many different forms, from learning spellings and times tables to researching a topic and presenting information. Sometimes homework will be for pupils to complete work that has been started at school and therefore the amount of homework to be done will depend on what each child completed during the lesson in school.

Regular reading is a core expectation of pupils at St Wulstan's. From Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6 there is an expectation that children will read (or be read to) each day. The ability to read is key to all learning in school and therefore it is vitally important that children become confident and fluent readers. However, this is not the sole purpose of learning to read and at St Wulstan's we aim to promote a love of reading that will stay with our pupils throughout their lives.

### **The Role of Parents and Carers**

Parents and carers can support children with homework by:

- Providing a suitable place for their children to do their homework
- Making it clear to their children that homework is important
- Being actively involved with joint homework activities
- Being aware of what homework has been set and the date by which it should be completed
- Encouraging and praising children for their efforts

### **The Role of the School**

The school will support pupils by:

- Providing a Homework Diary (for children in Key Stage 2) for children to record what homework has been set and the date by which it should be completed
- Checking and signing homework diaries each week
- Providing guidance on how to complete and present homework
- Giving parents guidance as to how much homework will be given and when it is due in
- Ensuring that homework is set regularly so that parents and children will be able to develop a routine of working at home
- Providing homework that is tailored to the needs of individual children and groups of children
- Providing feedback, through marking, which will identify what has been done well and what steps could be taken to improve work

### **The Type and Amount of Homework**

The main focus of homework is to develop and consolidate skills that have been practised in class in English and Mathematics but other subjects will be included, generally as children move through Key Stage 2.

Homework will not always be a piece of formal written work and particularly in the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 may take the form of a joint task or game undertaken with parents, that will usually relate to work that has been done class. Some homework, such as learning spellings and times tables, will be set at a level that is appropriate to the needs of each child and therefore will not be identical for every member of a class.

The amount of homework set will depend on the age and development of the children but will generally be based on the recommended government guidelines:

Years 1 and 2	1 hour per week	Reading, spelling, other literacy work and number work
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours per week	English and mathematics as for Years 1 and 2, with occasional assignments in other subjects
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day	Regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on English and mathematics, but also ranging widely over the curriculum

Signed \_\_\_\_\_(Chair of Academy Committee)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_(Principal)

Date\_\_\_\_\_