

**ST. PATRICK'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**



*Christ with me wherever I go,
Christ around, above, below.*

HOMEWORK POLICY

Mission Statement

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School, together with home, parish and local communities, works to maintain a happy, secure, stimulating and welcoming environment, enhancing children's learning and celebrating the achievement of everyone. We achieve this through living the gospel values based on acceptance, affirmation, love and respect.

We seek to recognise, develop and celebrate all that makes us fully human through an ever deepening relationship with God and each other, firmly rooted in the teaching of Jesus Christ and nourished through prayer and worship.

We value co-operation, openness and trust, leading to the growth of confidence, appreciation of all our gifts, culminating in a sense of self-worth, responsibility and true belonging.

In the spirit of equality, we will strive to help all children achieve their full potential, working towards excellence as an expression of personal dignity and fulfilment.

Aims

- To extend school learning into other areas.
- To exploit resources for learning outside of school.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding learnt at school.
- To develop an effective partnership with parents and carers.
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline to study independently.

Objectives

- To ensure consistency of approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure progression towards independent learning skills.
- To ensure that pupils receive appropriate and differentiated work.
- To ensure that parents have a clear understanding of the expectations the school has for completing homework and the type of help to be given.
- To improve the quality of learning.
- To support and extend the learning situation in school to include home.
- To provide for a closer link between school and home.
- To improve preparation for secondary transfer.

Type and Amount of Homework

The type and amount of homework should be appropriate to the age and need of the child and should relate to the work being carried out in class.

Year Group	Amount	Type
Nursery		Activities to be given as and when required.
Reception		Reading, sound sheets, high frequency words, number formation up to 10 and practical skills.
Year 1	1 hour per week	Reading, spellings, sight and CVC words, high frequency words, phonemes, number bonds.
Year 2	1 hour per week	Reading, Maths (inc. tables), English, spellings and handwriting.
Year 3	1 1/2 - 2 hours per week	Reading, Maths (inc. tables), English, spellings and handwriting.
Year 4	1 1/2 - 2 hours per week	Reading, Maths (inc. tables), English, spellings and handwriting.
Year 5	1 1/2 - 2 hours per week	Reading, Maths (inc. tables), English, spellings and handwriting.
Year 6	2 hours per week	Reading, Maths (inc. tables), English, spellings and handwriting.

Please note that the above list is not exhaustive. Additional activities may be given as necessary.

Reading

Throughout the whole school, all children will be expected to read every day. Depending on their age and ability this will be between 10 and 20 minutes per day and again dependent on age and ability can be with a parent or carer or on their own.

Reading could be done within the context of the homework i.e. researching a topic for History has a reading element. In the early stages of reading the younger children need constant practice and help.

Maths

Tasks need to be short and focused and not necessarily written. The tasks will be given on a regular basis. A regular pattern of homework will be established according to the age of the child. The homework should be well planned and part of the schemes of work and teachers should ensure that the work is manageable. Where possible homework should be differentiated, especially for children with SEN.

Religious Education

Children will be given tasks to carry out as a family at home to support the 'Come and See' topic being taught in class.

Non-completion of homework

When homework has not been done, appropriate action will be taken by the teacher. Teachers will also consult with parents when there is a persistent or worrying problem with homework.

The role of the school

The class teacher is responsible for setting appropriate homework. They should:

- mark it regularly;
- keep to the guidelines as set out above;
- check that students are recording details of homework set in their diaries (if applicable) and should allow time in the lesson for pupils to do this;
- allow sufficient time for tasks to be completed to enable pupils to plan their time, participate in out of school activities if they wish and still be able to do their homework;
- not use homework as a punishment.

Curriculum co-ordinators will be monitoring subject content and this will include the quality of homework tasks.

The role of parents and carers

- We hope that parents will provide a suitable place for their child to complete homework and support younger children.
- We ask parents to demonstrate that they value homework by encouraging children to complete tasks set and hand the work in on the correct day.

Parents' opinions of homework will be monitored and will be part of the review process.