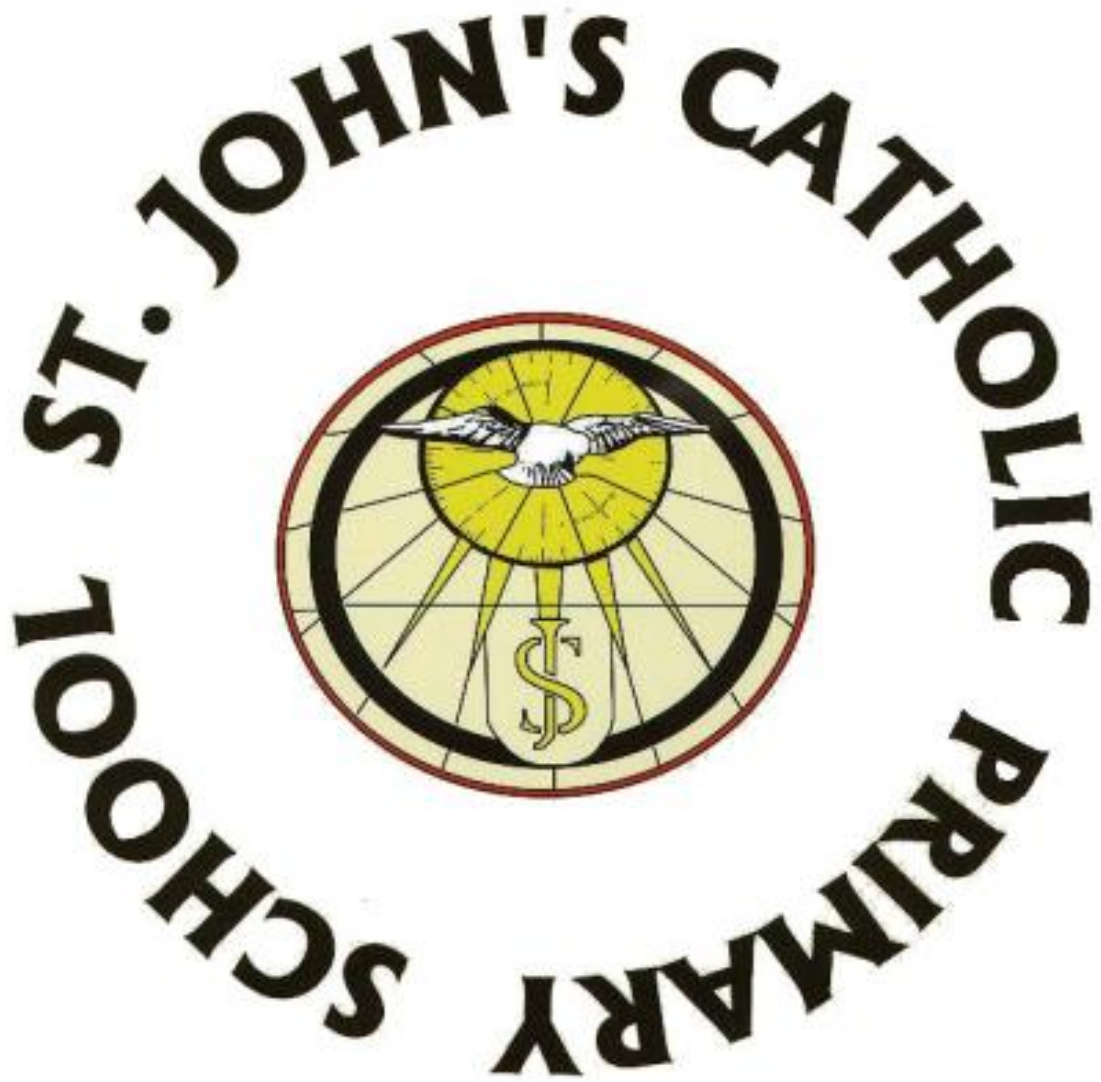




Homework Policy

September 2022

Our Mission Statement

The Mission of St. John's Catholic Primary School is to grow and learn in the footsteps of Jesus by being: responsible, caring, prayerful, creative, independent, thoughtful, curious and respectful. We live our Mission by:

- Ensuring that our attitudes and values are transmitted through a curriculum that is consistent with the Catholic faith
- Delivering a curriculum that is relevant, varied, interesting, stimulating, balanced and appropriate
- Developing policies and schemes of work which recognise that R.E. is an integral part of the curriculum
- Developing sound teaching and effective classroom management
- Generating a positive attitude to learning where realistic expectations of pupils and high standards of work are expected
- Using a variety of teaching approaches that reflect the needs of individual pupils
- Participating in projects which focus on the needs of others including local and international charities.
- St. John's is a Catholic voluntary aided primary school, established by the Church to serve the parishes of St. John the Baptist, Trowbridge and St. Thomas Moore, Bradford on Avon.

At St John's Catholic Primary School, we appreciate how important the links between home and school are, and the need for us to work together as a partnership to ensure the best education for all children. Research conducted by Education Endowment Foundation concluded that carefully linking homework to classwork can have a high impact on children's progress (+3 months for Primary aged children) and even greater impact when digital technologies are used (+6 months). It is for this reason that we believe that it is important that children have homework set that is related to learning within the classroom. Homework will be carefully planned to extend learning, enhance and reinforce skills and understanding, and allow children to consolidate and improve their skills further. Through our mission statement we encourage all children to be 'responsible' and 'curious' learners and to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life.

"Homework" is any work or activity completed outside lesson time either alone, with parents or others.

We see the purpose of homework as being to:

- Develop an effective partnership between school and parents for each child's education, as children achieve more when teachers and parents work together
- Consolidate/reinforce skills and understanding
- Extend school learning
- Develop confidence, independence and the self-discipline needed for personal study in preparation for being global citizens.

Aims of the homework policy:

- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To ensure parents have a clear understanding about expectations
- To extend and support learning

It is our policy to set homework as follows:

Year Group	Time allocation (per week - excluding reading)	Activities
EYFS	30 minutes	Daily reading – 5 minutes Weekly Doodle Maths Term 3 - the addition of weekly handwriting.
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)	45 minutes	Daily reading – 10 minutes Weekly Doodle Maths and book review
Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)	1 hour	Daily reading – 10 minutes Weekly free write, spellings and Doodle Maths Term 3 – Year 4 - Multiplication facts

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)	1 hour and 30 minutes	Daily reading – 15 minutes Doodle Maths Weekly grammar, free write and spellings
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In addition to the above, there are termly 'Home Learning Activities' related to the children's project which cover a range of subjects across the year. These also encourage the children to focus on our Catholic Social Teaching values, through activities such as growing plants linked to Stewardship.

Homework across the whole school is set on a Thursday and due in the following Tuesday.

How staff will support this policy:

- By providing a range of homework tasks and activities.
- By ensuring that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their age and ability
- In Key Stage 2, children who either do not complete the homework on time or do not have their homework books in school on Tuesdays are required to attend 'Homework Pick-Ups' during the first half of Tuesday lunch break. During this session there will be a member of staff to support them and help them to catch up with the missed learning.

How parents can help to support their children:

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework
- Be actively involved in the homework (particularly of younger children)
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by a comment in a reading record.
- Inform the class teacher if there have been exceptional circumstances as to why a particular week's home learning was not completed.

Children are expected to:

- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.
- Ask their class teacher for additional help with the task, if they need it, before it is due in on a Tuesday.

Feedback for children

Feedback will be given promptly and may be given in a variety of ways

- Verbal response from parents and teachers
- Class discussion
- Tests e.g. Spellings
- Written work – in line with school Feedback policy.
- Doodle Maths is an online learning platform and feedback is given instantly. Class teachers monitor this.

This policy has been approved and adopted by the Governing Body on:

Head teacher :

Signed



Chair of Governors :

Signed



Review cycle:	Annually
Next review due:	September 2023