

English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy

Homework Policy



Approved by:
Head teacher -
and FGB

Date: January 2023

Last reviewed
on: January 2023

Next review due
by: January 2025

1. Mission Statements

"We grow and learn with the gifts we have been given, following in the footsteps of Jesus"

2. Rationale

English Martyrs CVA is committed to setting regular homework appropriate to the age, needs and experiences of the child. We believe that homework helps to consolidate the skills that are being taught at school and provides children with more opportunities for learning more, knowing more and remembering more. It also gives our children the self-discipline needed when eventually they transfer to secondary school. Homework creates a partnership between school and family, giving parents / carers an insight into what their child is learning.

3. Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents / carers are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Use homework as a tool to help continue to 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 / carers, 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.
- Practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge across the curriculum.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- Prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

4. Homework Procedures

Homework expectations relevant to the year group will be shared with parents/carers on the class pages on class dojo and the school website.

Often your child will be able to complete the given tasks independently but at times they will need parental support depending on the individual pupil and their needs.

When hearing a younger child read, we do ask that parents evidence this in reading diaries and that children read at least three times a week. Older children can evidence their reading in their reading diaries independently.

Once a child is more independent with their reading, parents should still oversee their child's reading and question them on what they have read. Support for parents in this area will be given by the class teacher if needed.

There will be no set formal homework in the holidays.

5. Retrieval based homework

Retrieval based homework will be given across year groups. This homework is intended to encourage children to remember more knowledge and will draw on information taught recently, and also link to knowledge that has been taught previously. Many of the children should be able to complete this independently depending on their age.

6. RE Homework

As we are a faith school and 10 % of our teaching time is devoted to RE we also feel that it is important for parents as partners to have an understanding of the topics we are teaching in RE so there will also be sent home a question for you to discuss as a family at the beginning of a new RE topic. This will not need to be recorded and will be put on class dojo at the beginning of a new RE topic.

7. Rewards

Each class teacher will monitor completed homework, this helps to monitor learning attitudes and achievement and helps inform discussion with parents. Children who complete homework will receive house points. Pupils who do not complete their homework or have not produced work appropriate to their ability, will be reminded by their class teacher and parents may be spoken to. Please let us know if there is a difficulty with homework being completed on time.

7. Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body

- To check compliance of the Policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

8. Role of Parents/Carers

- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities. The amount of support needed will depend on the needs of the individual child.
- Keeping staff informed of any change in the child's circumstances that may affect learning.

9. General

- If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. **In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.**
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.

10. Year Group Expectations

EYFS - reading 3 times during the week, key words to learn at home to support phonics teaching and letter formation practice when appropriate. Parents are encouraged to get involved in the class topics and online learning journeys of the children.

Year 1 - to read to an adult at least 3 times a week, to practice their weekly spellings at least 3 times a week and complete a retrieval activity sheet.

Year 2 – to read to an adult at least 3 times a week, to practice their weekly spellings at least 3 times a week, complete a retrieval activity sheet and appropriate times tables practice.

Year 3 - to read to an adult at least 3 times a week, to practice their weekly spellings at least 3 times a week, complete a retrieval activity sheet and appropriate times tables practice.

Year 4 – to read at least 3 times a week, to practice their weekly spellings at least 3 times a week, complete a retrieval activity sheet and appropriate times tables practice.

Year 5 – to read at least 3 times a week, to practice their weekly spellings at least 3 times a week, complete a retrieval activity sheet and appropriate times tables practice.

Year 6 – to read at least 3 times a week, to practice their weekly spellings at least 3 times a week, complete a weekly homework piece relating to learning completed that week (this will either be maths or reading comprehension linked) and appropriate times tables practice.