
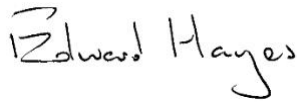


# Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust



## HOMWORK POLICY

Policy Date:	28/06/21		Kate Hayles Head Teacher	
Policy Review Date:	28/06/22		Edward Hayes Chair of Governors	

# Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Homework Policy

### Introduction

Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy has always valued homework as a useful means of extending learning beyond the normal school day. At the same time, we value homework as a means of involving parents and carers in their child's education.

### Homework - a Definition

Homework is defined as *any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.*

It may take the form of working on specific pages of homework books as directed by the teacher, the learning of spellings or tables, the sharing and reading of books and practical investigative work.

### The Purpose of Homework

The school regards the purpose of homework as being to:

develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school.

consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and

numeracy; exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home;

extend school learning, for example through additional reading;

encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and to prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

## **The Aims of the Policy**

Through this policy we aim to:

ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;

ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility;

ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupil;

improve the quality of learning experience offered to pupils;

extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision;

provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership;

provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences;

encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs;

in Year 6, to prepare children for secondary transfer.

## **Current Practice**

At Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy, all pupils are expected to complete homework tasks. The tasks and the time allowed varies according to the age of the child.

From the time of entering the school at the age of 4, children and parents are encouraged to share books and recite nursery rhymes together. They are advised to talk about the book together. They are encouraged to recite counting rhymes and to count out objects together..

In Year 1 homework includes regular reading together and phonics practice. A parental workshop is held to assist parents with this. Where teachers deem appropriate they will Each child is given a handwriting practice book and a maths practice book. Teachers should inform parents of the appropriate page to consolidate learning from the week. Children are not asked to bring these in unless they are proud of a particular page and would like to show their teacher.

In Year 2 homework includes regular reading together. Pupils will take home sounds work and spellings to learn. They may have a Learning Project to complete as homework. Each child is given a handwriting practice book and a maths practice book. Teachers should inform parents of the appropriate page to consolidate learning from the week. Children are not asked to bring these in unless they are proud of a particular page and would like to show their teacher.

In Years 3 - 6 the range of homework involves reading (for Accelerated Reader), times tables, spellings and Learning Project work. Each child is given a handwriting practice book and a maths practice book. Teachers should inform parents of the appropriate page to consolidate learning from the week. Children are not asked to bring these in unless they are proud of a particular page and would like to show their teacher.

At Year 6, pupils, with the support of parents, are expected to revise from planned sheets or books for SATs.

Homework will not, in general, be used to finish off work started in class.

The school believes a regular pattern is important, particularly for literacy and numeracy. It will endeavour to establish a familiar routine - particularly for older children, e.g. setting spellings on Mondays in readiness for the Friday test.

### **Special Educational Needs**

**Setting the right type and amount of homework for children with special educational needs** will need careful consideration by the class teacher and co-ordination with both the SENCO and parents. The purposes of homework outlined in this policy should apply equally to pupils with special educational needs.

If parents of children with SEND are concerned about home learning please make an appointment to see our SENCO

### **The Role of Parents and Carers in Supporting Pupils with Homework Activities**

The school recognises that parents and carers have a key role to play in supporting pupils homework. The nature of this role will change as children get older. For much of their homework, particularly with younger children, parents and carers will be encouraged as far as possible to become actively involved in joint homework activities. Through the home-school agreement and other measures, parents will be encouraged to:

provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework - alone or, more often for younger children, together with an adult - or help pupils attend other places where homework can be done, such as homework clubs or study support centres;

make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning;

encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework

### **The Planning and Co-ordination of Homework**

The planning and co-ordination of homework is the responsibility of the class teacher.

### **Informing and Consulting Parents and Carers about the Homework Policy**

The school will use the first Parent's evening of each year to inform parents and carers about the school's homework policy and secure their involvement. At this point teachers will use the discussion to promote this partnership and obtain feedback. Parents will be consulted about any significant changes to the policy that are being considered by the Governing Body.

### **Other Childhood Activities**

The school does not believe that homework should get in the way of pupils' participation in other enriching activities such as sports, hobbies and visits. As far as practically possible, the school will work with parents and carers to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to participate in such activities.

### **Reviewing and Evaluating the Policy**

The headteacher will meet with staff to review and update the homework policy. Where significant changes to the policy are felt to be required, proposals will be presented to the governing body.