

St Matthew's CE Primary School

Homework Policy



At St Matthew's we believe that homework supports children's learning and helps them to embed the progress they make at school. It also develops independent learning skills, including good habits of organisation and self-discipline, which are an essential part of learning. We know that homework provides opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning. We also believe that homework should be enjoyable for children and their families, and not put undue pressure on family life.

Homework at St Matthew's includes:

1. Daily home reading – St Matthew's provides home reading books and reading records which are closely matched to children's attainment levels. These books should be read daily, either independently or aloud to an adult. The child or adult should then write a comment on the reading in their reading record, which will support the teacher with the child's reading assessment. Books are changed regularly. Parents are encouraged to use local libraries to supplement their children's reading.
2. Weekly homework - Homework menus are sent home termly. These menus provide suggestions for a range of tasks for the term which children can choose from each week and record in their homework books. The tasks may be creative, written, focused on basic skills or a practical activity or visit. Homework is recommended but not compulsory, and children are not chastised for not completing homework tasks.
3. Online games and activities – Children have access to online learning platforms such as DB Primary, Espresso, Times Table Rockstars, Reading Eggs and Maths Whizz. These may be used to support learning at home.

Teachers will set home-work at a level which is achievable for the child. Additional materials such as age-related learning objectives, spelling word lists, phonics sounds and times tables may be sent home to be support parents with their children's learning.

Teachers will not provide additional homework at parents' request. Parents may provide their children with additional revision or homework books to complete at home, but these will not be marked by the teacher.

Homework will be monitored weekly by the teacher, who will comment on the work completed by the child. Homework is not expected to be completed in school holidays. If a child is unwell, the child or parent may request homework upon their return but this will not be instigated by the teacher.

Where a child is absent from school for a prolonged period of time, teachers will set home learning for them to do to ensure that the child does not fall behind with their learning.