



St Nicholas Middle School Homework Policy

Rationale

Schools Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. It is important in raising student achievement. Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some students who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school. School does run a lunchtime homework club for those who want to access this. Homework enhances student learning, improves achievement and develops students' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

Aims

Homework enables students to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- Access resources not available in the classroom.
- Develop research skills.
- Have an opportunity for independent work.
- Show progress and understanding.
- Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching.
- To enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
- To take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- Engage parental co-operation and support.
- Create channels for home school dialogue.

Expectations:

When, how much and by whom?

Year 5

Weekly homework tasks
Reading at home daily
Spellings
English Grammar
Maths and English (Set on Thursday, due in following Tuesday)
Children will also be set a half termly project to complete with a foundation subject / topic theme focus each half term.

Year 6

Weekly homework tasks
English, Grammar and Spellings (from w/c 27.01.2020 revision tasks)
Maths (from w/c 27.01.2020 revision tasks)
Reading at home daily
Science (every fortnight)
Children will also be set a half termly project to complete with a foundation subject / topic theme focus each half term.

Year 7

Weekly homework tasks
English (Set on Friday, due in following Wednesday)
Maths (Set on Friday, due in following Wednesday)
Science (One per unit of work)
Theme (One per unit of work)
Reading at home daily
French (One per unit of work)

Please note reading at home is an expectation for all children and it is the parents responsibility to ensure this expectation is met.

Sanctions

When homework is not completed, teachers should initially support the student and ensure the tasks set meet the student's needs. If this is so, then sanctions should be used.

1. Class teacher - discussion and negotiation with pupil, informing parents via text, pupils will be given the opportunity to complete by the next day and reminded about Homework Club.

2. Head of Year - discussion and negotiation with referred pupil, informing parents by text. Letter to parents and detention if necessary.

Incentives

High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class. Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. House points for achievement and sustained effort may be awarded for good homework. For exceptional pieces of homework, a text, letter or postcard may be sent home.

Responsibilities

The role of the pupils

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date into the homework diary.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties.

The role of the parents / Carers

- To ensure children complete homework by deadline
- To support school in ensuring children complete homework
- To provide help and support
- To liaise with teacher if there are any concerns / issues

Role of the Teachers

The teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken. The teacher will:

- Set homework according to the timetable.
- Provide the stimulus.
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Mark and return all homework promptly.
- Provide help and support.
- Inform Head of Year / Parents, as appropriate, when problems arise.