

Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School



'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' – Matthew 7 v 17

HOMEWORK POLICY

Shared with Full Governors: March 2025

Review: March 2027

Background

It is important that our homework policy is evidence based. The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) is a well-respected research organisation. In the EEF research paper, 'Working with Parents to Support Children's Learning' it says:

'Children who regularly complete homework have better school outcomes than children who do not. This association is stronger at secondary school than primary school, where the evidence base is also more secure. Homework has a number of potential benefits including consolidation of what has been learned in lessons, preparation for subsequent lessons and tests, and the development of independent learning skills. At primary level, the evidence is strongest for short and focused homework tasks.'

At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School, we believe homework can have the following benefits:

- support learning and embeds skills;
- prepares children for the next stage of their education (particularly secondary school);
- helps develop life skills and patterns of positive behaviour (organisation and self-discipline);
- develops parental involvement in their child's learning.

This policy aims to:

- Reassure parents
- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school;
- Ensure teachers, parents and carers have a clear understanding about expectations of themselves and pupils.

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Key Principles:

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance.
- As the children progress through the school so the amount of homework increases.

Reading:

We believe that the most important homework activity is regular reading. Suggested reading times are 10 minutes in Reception/Year 1 increasing to 20 minutes by Year 5 & 6 (Children also read in school everyday). There is an expectation that reading at home will happen at least 5 times a week and preferably daily. It is important for parents/ carers **to read to** their children, **read with** their children and **listen to** their children read as well as discuss books, pictures and stories, even when they are in Year 6.

Parents and children should use the school reading records to record reading completed at home. This will be checked by staff. If children are not reading regularly, the English subject leader/Head Teacher will follow up with pupils and parents/carers, offering encouragement, guidance and support. ***We are starting a half termly Head Teacher café to reward the children who read regularly.***

For children in Reception and Key Stage 1 who are reading phonics books, parents/carers follow the '123 approach' (1- focus on decoding; 2- focus on comprehension and understanding; 3- focus on fluency and prosody/expression).

All children reading 5 times a week will rewarded with a dojo (Merit).

Spelling:

Children in Year 3-6 are set weekly spellings on EdShed This homework will match learners' abilities and will be set through the use of the on-line platform 'Spelling Shed' (www.spellingshed). Log in details will be provided by the class teacher and are in reading diaries. ***Children are expected to complete 3 games a week.***

Maths:

Years 2-6 will have access to Times Tables RockStars, for practising times tables. Children are encouraged to use this program regularly at home to reinforce the number fluency that they learn in school. Log in details are provided by the class teacher and are in reading diaries. ***Children are expected to complete 3 assignments a week*** (No more than 5 minutes an assignment).

Is homework compulsory?

We regard homework as a vital part of the school's programme for learning; Reading is regarded as compulsory for all year groups and whenever homework is set in Year 6 it should be regarded as compulsory and must be completed as and when required by the teacher. This will be made very clear to the children and we ask that parents play their part in supporting their child's learning by: taking an interest in the homework if possible; helping to provide conditions where the homework can be done effectively and ensuring it is returned on time. We will try to ensure that your child is stretched in their learning but not over-burdened, and if you feel problems are arising please let us know. In developing good 'homework habits' children are preparing for future years of learning and developing the skills of personal responsibility, independent learning and initiative that will serve them in later life. Homework is a vital activity in which home and school

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work together for the children's good. Homework will not be set in the holidays, but we expect children to continue reading to avoid a slump in their reading ability each September.

Year 6:

SATs Revision homework is compulsory to reflect the development of their independent studying skills needed ready for secondary school. If a child has a particular difficulty with homework, they must speak to the class teacher as they can work together to find a suitable solution. It is advisable for children to start homework early in case support is needed.

Reporting to Parents/Carers

Teachers will report to you on homework in each relevant area (Reading, Spelling and Times Tables) at parents' evenings and in short and end of year reports.

Devices

We appreciate that Spelling Shed and Times Tables Rockstars are on-line homework platforms. If your child does not have access to a device to complete on-line homework, please inform the class teacher so that paper copies can be provided.

The lack of a device is not a barrier to homework being completed.

Overview:

Pippin Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular reading (Daily at least 5 times a week) Diaries to be signed by parent/carer• Sharing Book once a week• Occasional tasks set by the teacher on 'Tapestry' linked to the EYFS curriculum.
Maigold Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular reading (Daily at least 5 times a week) Diaries to be signed by parent/carer• Sharing Book once a week• Spellings on Spelling Shed (Year 2) 3 games a week• Times Table Rockstars (Year 2 From Summer Term) 3 assignments a week
Gala Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular reading (Daily at least 5 times a week) Diaries to be signed by parent/carer• Sharing Book once a week• Spellings on Spelling Shed 3 games a week• Times Table Rockstars 3 assignments a week
Discovery Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular reading (Daily at least 5 times a week) Diaries to be signed by parent/carer• Spellings on Spelling Shed 3 games a week• Times Table Rockstars 3 assignments a week
Camelot Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular reading (Daily at least 5 times a week) Diaries to be signed by parent/carer• Spellings on Spelling Shed 3 games a week• Times Table Rockstars 3 assignments a week
Blenheim Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular reading (Daily at least 5 times a week) Diaries to be signed by parent/carer• Spellings on Spelling Shed 3 games a week• Times Table Rockstars 3 assignments a week• Revision for SATs (From January)

**Whilst SATs revision books being completed, there is a break from Spelling Shed and TT Rockstars*

Please note: Additional homework may be set by the class teacher to address areas requiring development or to support enrichment of the curriculum. E.g additional Maths worksheets or a History project.