St Martin’s C of E Primary School

*‘Inspiring children to be the best they can be’*



**Homework Policy**

**Draft – Autumn 2024**

**To be reviewed – Autumn 2026**

St Martin’s C of E Primary School Homework Policy

*‘Inspiring children to be the best they can be’*

1. Statement of Aims Homework at St Martin’s is set to enable children to continue their learning at home; for parents to become familiar with the work that their children are completing and to enable children to share their learning with their family. As children get older, homework should help them to develop skills of independent learning.
2. Approach Throughout the school, homework is set on a weekly basis, with the amount of homework gradually increasing as children get older. Our youngest children share their work with adults at home, whilst by the end of Year 6, children need to be prepared for the amount of homework set at Secondary School, without losing the free time that they enjoy and which enables them to take part in a variety of ‘out of school’ activities. At St Martin’s we recognise that it is the development of the whole child that is of paramount importance and that academic achievement forms only a part of this - be it an important part.

All children throughout the school are encouraged and expected to read at home as often as possible, with younger children reading aloud to or with an adult and older children being encouraged to discuss the content of their book with an adult as their reading and comprehension skills develop.

Every child in KS1 has a ‘Reading Record Book’ which should be signed by the adult who works with the child at home on each occasion to give the class teacher an indication of how often the child is reading at home. This book will also be used, by the class teacher or teaching assistant, to record some of the reading activities that your child has at school.

In KS2 children will be given a homework diary at the beginning of each academic year. Children will use this to record the homework set and the date it is due to be handed in. The homework diary can be used for correspondence between school and parent and teachers will prompt children on a daily basis to show any messages. Parents will be asked to sign the diary once a week. Diaries will be monitored by the class teacher on a weekly basis. It is the responsibility of each child to look after their diary and use it correctly. New diaries can be purchased during the year from the office should a diary become lost or damaged.

During times of large-scale disruptions (e.g COVID) we will limit the amount of homework and items that go between to and from school. This will be clearly communicated to parents via newsletters, class pages and parent mail.

See Appendix 1 for a detailed description of homework set in each year group.

1. Learning styles: Children’s learning can be developed through active and practical tasks being set for homework. These tasks may be completed independently, or with a member of the child’s family, who would be able to offer support. It is important that the activity is not done by the adult! This style of learning should enable children to retain the skills and knowledge that they develop at home as a result of the more practical approach. All children are expected to read at home as often as possible, at least three times per week from Year 1. In Key Stage 2, children are often expected to learn mathematical facts such as number bonds and times tables as part of their homework.
2. Relevant and Purposeful: At St Martin’s, homework is closely linked to class work and will either be used to develop learning begun in class, to prepare children for work in a future lesson or in response to children’s interests discovered while learning at school. It is our aim that all homework set will be relevant and purposeful for the children.
3. Assessment: Homework will always be checked by the teacher, with verbal or where appropriate; marked in class by the pupils in discussion with the teacher. The nature of the tasks set makes them unlikely to form part of any formal assessment, but all skills and knowledge used in homework will be noted by the class teacher as part of our continuous assessment for learning in all areas of the curriculum.
4. Monitoring: Homework at St Martin’s is monitored by the Phase leaders and Phase leaders will monitor tasks set during the school year.

Appendix

**Progression of homework set throughout the school**

Details will be given to parents at the beginning of each term in the Termly Overview which the class teacher will send home.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Year | Tasks set | Time |
| Reception | Reading books and practical activities linked to phonics/Maths/theme/spelling tricky words/handwriting (letter formation)  Numbot activities for Maths. | 10-15 mins |
| 1 | Reading practise and weekly spellings when appropriate and Numbot activities for Maths. | 15 mins |
| 2 | Reading practise and weekly spellings when appropriate and Numbot activities for Maths and Summer Term introduction to Times Table Rock Stars. | 20 mins |
| 3 | Reading practise and weekly spellings and Time allocated for Times Table Rock Stars | 20 mins |
| 4 | Reading practise and weekly spellings along with application into sentences  Time allocated for Times Table Rock Stars | 30mins |
| 5 | Reading practise and weekly spellings  One piece of English homework a week  One piece of maths homework a week  Time allocated for Times Table Rock Stars | 20 mins  20 mins  10mins |
| 6 | Reading practise and weekly spellings  One piece of English homework a week  One piece of maths homework a week  *\*This can be set from Learning by Questions*  Time allocated for Times Table Rock Stars | 30 mins  30 mins  10 mins |



Homework at St Martin’s

Children can expect:

* to be set achievable tasks at an appropriate level for their ability;
* to have all homework tasks clearly explained to them on the day they are set;
* KS1 children will have clearly written instructions so that parents are able to support the activity;
* verbal or written feedback from their class teacher about the homework they have completed.

Parents can expect:

* regular homework to be set with clear written instructions;
* homework that their child is able to complete and understand;
* a response from the class teacher to any questions the parent may have about homework set;
* to be informed if homework is not set for any reason.

Class Teachers can expect:

* children to complete homework by the date set;
* a written explanation from parents if homework is not completed for any reason;
* parents to support their child in completing the task and to inform teachers of any difficulties with homework.

