

Homework Policy

**St. Lawrence CE (VA)
Primary School**

With
Little Lawrences

Napton

Revised
September 2018

Homework is considered to be an important part of the children's school experience and will be used at St Lawrence CE School. Its aim should always be to help children revise, to reinforce or indeed to extend their learning and should be planned for.

It is an expectation that parents help children with key skills including reading, spellings and times tables/number bonds as are appropriate to the age of the child. This is in line with what is expected by those who take additional music lessons both in, or out, of school.

Children are expected to work hard during the school day and so it is important not to overload a child. With this in mind, the school has agreed these guidelines. We call on all parents to support these guidelines to enable your child to succeed.

The homework structure is designed to prepare children for secondary schools.

Little Lawrences/Pre-school

No formal homework but children may be asked to bring items in for topics. Children's interests are at the centre of their learning experiences and parents are encouraged to record these on 'Lily Pads'. We strongly encourage the sharing of real books at home – books and advice are available from the classroom.

Reception

Up to 1 hour per week. This is based on work relating to phonics, mathematics, sharing of books and other learning in class. Reading and the sharing of books is vital – please see attached reading letter. This is known as home learning and will be sent home in a book each week. Children's interests are at the centre of their home learning experiences and parents are encouraged to record these on 'Lily Pads'. Children may be asked to bring items in for topics (as Little Lawrences)

Year 1

Up to 1 hour per week, reading (please refer to the attached reading letter) and phonics and another usually relating to maths. In the Summer Term, project based homework will replace much of the normal homework. This is given to all children and includes all the above in a cross curricular context.

Year 2

1 hour per week maths, work based on phonics/spellings and reading (please refer to the attached reading letter). On occasions, as in Year 1, project based homework will replace much of the normal homework. This is given to all children and includes all the above in a cross curricular context.

Year 3 & 4

Up to 1 ½ hours per week – Two x ½ hour sessions relating to English and maths in addition to reading. Reading should be recorded in Reading Diaries. English will be related to spellings, handwriting, grammar, comprehension or topic work. Maths will have a significant focus on fluency, including times tables. Children will also receive weekly spellings with related work that focuses on specific phonics/ spelling rules and/or word beginnings and endings (incl. prefixes and suffixes). A homework folder and books will be provided.

Year 5

Three pieces of homework per week (usually includes maths and English) – up to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours per week. Homework will include a piece relating to topic work or RE. Children are expected to read regularly and widely and will be followed up with work in class including book reviews. Children will also receive weekly spellings, with related work, that focuses on specific phonics/spelling rules and/or word beginnings and endings (incl. prefixes and suffixes). Maths will have a significant focus on fluency, including times tables. Homework books will be provided.

Year 6

Homework will include maths, English (to incl. spelling, punctuation and grammar), RE and one other (topic or science). Maths will have a significant focus on fluency, including times tables. Although 2 hours per week is used as a guide, this is likely to increase in order to support children in the lead up to the end of year tests. After the tests, considerably less homework is given. Homework books will be provided.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar

Samples of spellings and spelling rules are tested on a weekly basis. Full spelling assessments take place at intervals throughout the year. Please note that some children will have spellings and spelling rules that are separately set as agreed in Provision Plans. Punctuation and grammar is focused on using set books.

Reading

Children receive a small pack of books from a variety of schemes and 'real' books. These are noted in the Reading Diary that accompanies. *See the attached 'Reading at St Lawrence School' pack that accompanies this policy.*

Maths

Homework is given each week to reinforce and consolidate previous learning, including that from past years and KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts). For information see the Calculations Policy that covers the whole school.

No formal homework will be set in the first and last weeks of term.

The setting of projects: teachers will:

- Give a generous amount of time for projects to be completed when they are set.
- Give guidance for what should be included in these projects e.g. what is expected and how they might be marked.
- Homework and projects will be differentiated as deemed appropriate.
- Word processed homework/projects may be seen as appropriate.

If a child does not do homework, then they are likely to be asked to complete it in their own time.

When projects are set, teachers have agreed to reduce the other homework.

Projects are an ideal means of promoting independence and perseverance in their work, though the support of parents will no doubt help as they develop the skills.

Children are expected to do homework but if they are unable to do it, parents are asked to send in a signed note or have a quick word with the teacher: a note counts for everything.

Homework will be marked using a variety of methods, including peer/self-marking. Detailed marking will take place within children's classroom books and lighter marking for work completed at home.

Reviewed by all teaching staff September 2018.