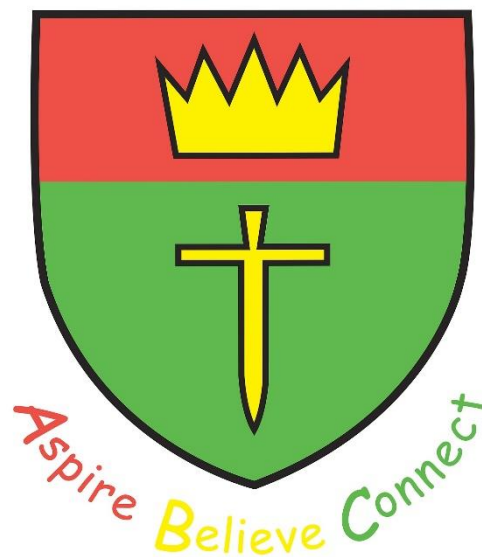


St Oswald's CE VA Primary School



Homework Policy

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Homework Policy:

Principles and Implementation

Agreed by governors: April 2024

Implementation date: April 2024

Review date: April 2026

Ethos and Values Statement



Background

Our Ethos and Values Statement is an easy to understand model of religious education in St Oswald's. Children in our school know that love is the most important value of all, in line with the new command that Jesus gave us to love one another ([John 13:34](#)), which is why this is placed above all in our statement.

Vision

Our school vision is 'God has a plan' ([Jeremiah 29:11](#)). At St Oswald's, we believe that God has a wonderful plan for us all and we seek to discover that plan on a daily basis, weaving this into our school values and all aspects of school.

Ethos

Sitting below love lies our school's ethos: *Aspire, Believe, Connect*. As easy as A, B, C, this statement is easy to remember and most importantly represents what we want our children to do in every aspect of their education and lives.

Core Christian Values

The mission statement is underpinned by seven core Christian values that each link to one aspect of *Aspire, Believe, Connect*. As children aspire to be the best they can be in every way, they will grow in wisdom. In order to believe in themselves and develop their own beliefs about the world around them, our children are taught about the importance of trust and strength on their journey. We also believe in the values of peace and friendship in helping us to connect with those around us. Binding together all of these and very much at the heart of our values - and indeed the Christian gospel/Jesus' teaching - is love ([John 3:16](#); [Mark 12:31](#)).

Homework and our Ethos

At St Oswald's, we promote an enriched, balanced and broad curriculum through our core and foundation topics. We encourage all children to learn in a safe and happy environment. As a school we aim to involve parents with their children's learning and with the New National Curriculum 2014. As a school we encourage parents and carers to take an active role in their children's homework and stimulate parents and carers to work alongside their children. As a whole we aim to give all children the same opportunities to develop their learning.

At St Oswald's our schemes of work reflect the content and challenge of the curriculum. Teachers have received training in key areas of curriculum change and are ready to provide outstanding curriculum provision. The curriculum is taught with the consideration of the needs of all learners. Our curriculum is be exciting and will inspire children to nurture a passion for learning.

Aims

- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and meeting age related objectives
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them

- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Extend and support learning
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Ensure our children by the end of Year Six are secondary ready.

Non-negotiables

- The table below gives a summary of homework for children.

Year Group	English	Other
At the start of each academic year, the class spelling word lists & phonics support sheets will be provided for parents.		
Reception	Reading	Talk Homework
1	Reading	Talk Homework
2	Reading	Talk Homework
3	Reading	Talk Homework
4	Reading	Talk Homework
5	Reading	Talk Homework
6	Reading SAT practice questions *Spring Term alterations will take place, see section below.	Talk Homework

All homework will be distributed on a Friday and children will hand this back in on a Friday.

Y6 Spring Term Alterations

During spring term, we ask the children to bring their homework books in (as well as upload to Google Classroom) so that they can physically mark their own books using the answer sheets staff keep in school. This means that staff don't provide feedback online during this term and do so verbally, in collaboration with the children, in school.

Reading

Reading must be carried out a minimum of three times per week and the reading diary **MUST** be signed by a parent or the reading task will be deemed incomplete. Children must read their school reading book once during the week but the other two reading sessions can be for the child's enjoyment and therefore they can choose a book, comic, newspaper article, website, leaflet etc. of their choice. We would not expect considerable amounts to be written just a simple comment as to how the child has read or a signature will suffice if the parent/carer does not wish to make a comment. Key Stage Two Children can write the comment themselves (again encouraging independence) however this still must be signed by a parent/carer. Reading Records are to be returned to school each day however reading will be checked off on a Friday by a member of staff in line with the school's reading non-negotiables.

To demonstrate the checking of a week of reading, reading diaries will be highlighted across at the end of the week and signed by the checking staff member. This staff member will also mark the number of reads cited within the diary, e.g. '3x read'. In support of this, we kindly ask parents to ensure that reads are dated to support staff in checking for the weekly coverage.

Reading must be marked into the reading diary each week and if there are three weeks across a term where children do not complete sufficient reads (3 per week), then this will not be eligible for the reading reward. If a child does not complete their any of their weekly reading on two occasions, a letter will be sent to parents regarding a meeting with the class teacher in the first instance and if this continues then with the Key Stage Leader. This letter acts as a prompt, prior to three weeks of reading being missed, as we want as many children to access the reading reward, as possible.

Talk Homework

Talk homework will have a main discussion point or question set, with some points. This homework task only requires a conversation between yourself and your child around the topic.

Marking & Feedback

Talk homework will be posted onto Seesaw on a Friday at 3.15pm. There is no expectation that short comments or photos need to be made against this post,

however if families choose to do this, this would be welcomed and there will be opportunities for the children to share this in class.

As a result, there will be no marking or feedback on Seesaw and school staff will not record a complete or incomplete mark against talk homework.

Homework Reward System

Teachers will reward excellence and effort in homework through positive praise, and Ozzie stars. In addition to this, any child who completes all reading homework in a term (reading 3x per week) will be awarded with a reading reward which will entail an activity an outing to celebrate!

Homework will:

- Be interesting and relevant to the class work
- Encourage communication, engagement & talk
- Be encouraged by a positive approach
- Not necessarily be written work or overly onerous
- Consolidate and build upon any previous learning

Following these guidelines will help children to develop independence, realise their full potential and prepare them for the next stage in their education.

Although there is no legal requirement to have a Homework Policy, the guidelines have been drawn up in line with recommendations.

Role of Stakeholders in Policy

All stakeholders have a role to play in this policy. Parents are encouraged to support learning at home by encouraging children to show develop positive attitudes towards their homework.