



HOMEWORK POLICY

Seend Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School will provide a happy, caring, family environment **where children feel inspired**. We know that every child matters – whatever their skills and abilities, whatever their background and whatever their aspirations. Belonging to a safe and nurturing community, founded on strong Christian values, children will develop an array of skills that will equip them to meet the challenges of our ever changing world and to make their own positive contribution to our global society.

What are we aiming to do?

At Seend School, we aim to provide homework which:

- extends school learning e.g. through additional reading etc.
- consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding, especially in Literacy and Numeracy.
- encourages pupils, as they get older to develop confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own and prepare for Secondary School education.
- gives parents and children opportunities to work together.
- exploits resources for learning, of all kinds, at home

How do we achieve these aims?

- Homework will be set regularly and on the same day within each class
- Parents are encouraged to play their part by providing a peaceful, suitable place, where a child can work, together with an adult or alone.
- Children will be encouraged to complete their homework to the best of their ability and rewarded for consistent completion and high standards
- Parents and Staff will make it clear to pupils that their homework is valued and give encouragement and praise when completed.
- Sign post parents to resources that will support homework
- Parents of children who do not regularly support their children in completing the non negotiable home will be contacted by the Headteacher.

Non-negotiable homework

- Daily reading (Reception to Year 6) – recorded in the reading record book
- Learning spellings and maths facts (Year 1 – Year 6)

Optional / Extra homework (KS2)

- Activities grid (linked to any area of the curriculum)
- Active Learn

KS2 children will have homework books where spelling words and maths facts can be learned and optional homework can be completed. It is the responsibility of the **children** to look after these books and to ensure they are handed in on time each week.

All year groups:

The importance of book sharing cannot be over emphasised. Sharing and discussing books is vital to many other areas of learning and should be undertaken regularly and often. Advice from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (D.C.S.F.) is:

“Regular reading is vital. For children in Key Stage 1 homework should very largely consist of regular reading with parents and carers, looking at books together. Reading practice and listening to others read then continues to be essential right though primary school. One of the key messages for parents and carers from the Government is that all primary school age children should either read to their

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parents or carers, listen to them reading or, if they are fluent readers, read on their own for at least 10 to 20 minutes a day. This may be done in the context of homework, for example a six year old reading her school reading book to a parent or a ten year old reading a reference book for a history project. Or it may be done separately, parents reading stories to children or children reading out signs or notices on the way to school.” (Homework: Guidelines for Primary and Secondary Schools.)

Reading records books, are required to be commented in and signed, as they are a valuable tool for communication. Children who are ‘free readers’ can fill in their own reading records, preferably with a parental signature to say that discussions have taken place.

Whilst every endeavour will be made to stick to a regular pattern of homework so that children and parents are aware of the expectation, there are times and occasions within the school year where other pressures take over and homework may therefore become irregular.

How can parents help?

- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupil can do their homework alone or, more often for younger children, together with an adult or help pupils attend other places where homework can be done,
- make it clear to children that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning,
- help provide resources that will help complete tasks,
- strike a balance between supporting children and encouraging independence,
- encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework
- encourage children to organise their time effectively and not leave work to the last minute

Next review date July 2017