



**St Michael's**  
C.E. Primary School

# Homework Policy

Date	November 2024
Date for review	November 2025

## Our Theologically Rooted Christian Vision

### *Courage to Flourish in the Love of God*

**‘I have come that [you] may have life, and have it to the full’ (John 10:10)**



**[Therefore],**

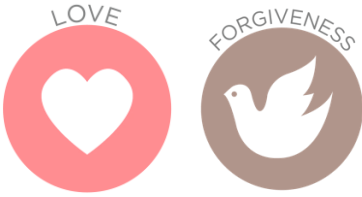


**‘Be strong and courageous... the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.’ (Joshua 1:9)**

These biblical texts underpin our vision summary, ‘Courage to flourish in the love of God’. Jesus’ words from the New Testament describe his desire for everyone to be a full and flourishing version of their created selves, experiencing life in all its vibrant fullness, individually and in community. Our ambition is for everyone to encounter this fullness through the life and work of the school, whatever their background, beliefs or circumstances. God’s words to Joshua from the Old Testament illustrate how life, and learning, can be challenging, bringing setbacks and discouragement. These words inspire us to keep on going in those circumstances, confident that God watches over us and walks beside us.

The joining of these biblical texts is meaningful for the particular circumstances of our school community. It gives coherence to our aspirational vision that will grow courage and resilience as enablers of ‘life in all its fullness’ for everyone. To support our vision, we have seven overarching Christian values.

## Our Core Christian Values

<u>Value</u>	<u>Biblical texts that underpin our values</u>
	Philippians 4:13 ‘I can do all things through him who strengthens me.’
	John 1:5 ‘The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.’

	<p>1 Corinthians 13:4-8</p> <p>'Love is patient and kind... it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.'</p> <p>1 John 1:9</p> <p>'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us'</p>
	<p>Proverbs 3:5-6</p> <p>'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.'</p>
	<p>Hebrews 10:24</p> <p>'Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.'</p>
	<p>1 Thessalonians 5:18</p> <p>'Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you'</p>

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

### **Rationale**

At St. Michael's Church of England Primary school, we believe that homework is an essential part of pupils' learning. In line with National Curriculum requirements, homework is set and children are encouraged to, and expected to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school life.

- Homework is set regularly as a means of embedding learning.
- Homework is differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils.
- Homework should be understood by pupils and parents, and not be seen as an onerous task.

### **Definition**

Homework is defined as work set by the teacher to be done at home, either by the child alone or with the support of an older sibling, parent or carer. The main focus of homework will be Maths and English.

Homework will involve some or all of the following activities:

- Reading: independent reading.
- Spellings: learning sounds and spellings.
- Learning number facts and practice of calculation (multiplication tables and number bonds).

### **Entitlement**

All children are entitled to have homework set by their teacher which is matched to their ability and needs.

### **Aims**

At St. Michael's Church of England Primary School, we appreciate how important the link between home and school is, and the need for us to work together to ensure a good education for all children. It is for this reason that we believe that it is important that children have homework set that will support learning within the classroom. Homework will be carefully planned to reinforce taught knowledge and skills so children can consolidate and improve their learning.

Through the provision of a variety of activities and approaches to homework we aim to:

- Raise standards in all curriculum areas but particularly basic skills in Maths and English.
- Create a sound partnership between parents and teachers with regard to children's learning.
- Consolidate/reinforce pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding of work covered in class improve pupils' attitudes to learning and independent learning skill.

### **Government recommended time allocation for homework:**

Year 1 and 2	1 hour per week
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours per week
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day

We believe that the main focus of homework should be to support the work undertaken in school for literacy and numeracy. Science and other subjects should be added to this as children move up through the school but without losing the focus of literacy and numeracy.

Homework does not mean formal exercises carried out by children without help from adults. Particularly in the case of younger children it is the involvement of parents in joint activities, which can be very brief, which is most valuable in promoting children's learning.

Regular reading is vital. For children in KS1, homework should largely consist of regular reading with parents and looking at books together. This continues to be essential right through the school. For maths, number games and tasks should be played at home for the younger children and more formal exercises for the older ones.

### **Teachers**

In setting and marking homework, teachers will:

- Give reasonable time for its completion (including time to complete tasks if homework is not returned).
- Match tasks to time and as far as possible to the abilities of the children.
- Ensure homework is marked in line with the school's marking policy.
- Provide feedback to children on their progress.
- Provide additional guidance for parents as part of termly curriculum letters, on how/when homework should be completed.

### **Parents**

At St. Michael's Church of England Primary School, we recognise the importance of developing a sound partnership between parents and children with reference to children's learning. Parents will:

- Be provided with additional guidance to support learning at home and to help children with homework tasks.
- Be encouraged to support the school's homework policy when signing the home school agreement.
- Be given feedback on how children are doing.

### **Monitoring**

The Headteacher will regularly review the Policy and Guidelines on behalf of the Local Academy Board, alongside the whole staff team, and will monitor the quality of homework provision through planning and work scrutiny.

### **Year Group Homework**

Homework will be set on a weekly basis.

#### **Reception**

- Reading practice book read three times per week: this is recorded in the child's reading record.
- Numbots used three times per week, for 10 minutes per session.

#### **Year 1**

- Reading practice book read three times per week: this is recorded in the child's reading record.
- Numbots used three times per week, for 10 minutes per session.
- Spellings practised three times per week for a spelling test on Friday.

#### **Year 2**

- Reading practice book read three time per week. This is recorded in the child's reading record.
- Numbots used three times per week, for 10 minutes per session.
- This changes to Timetables Rockstars during the Spring term.
- Spellings practised three times per week for a spelling test on Friday.

#### **Years 3-6**

- Reading book read three times per week. This is recorded in the child's reading record, with a summary of reading.
- Timetables Rockstars used three times per week, for 10 minutes per session.
- Spellings practised three times per week for a spelling test on Friday.

In all year groups, teachers may set additional homework if they think this is required, e.g. SATs preparation in Year 6.

### **Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard. St Michael's CE Primary School recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also lend itself to cheating and plagiarism.

Pupils may use AI tools as a research tool to help them find out about new topics and ideas.

Pupils may not use AI tools:

- During assessments.
- To write their homework or class assignments, where AI-generated text is presented as their own work.