



**ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**Diocese of Westminster**

**HOMEWORK POLICY 2023**

**Mission Statement:** 'We are special people on a journey, growing and learning together, in search of excellence, as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus.'

**Community Prayer:** "Let us pray for one another, no matter what our culture, nationality, disability or gender, let us all be one in His name."

**Aims:** Love, Respect, Honesty.

**Vision:** We want to provide a broad and balanced curriculum in which Religious Education is at the heart and allows children to know what it means to be a catholic. A curriculum that encourages them to be critical thinkers and problem solvers who can retain and articulate their knowledge. We want our children to have positive relationships for healthy wellbeing and to know the importance of physical and emotional health and safety for themselves and others.

**Introduction**

This policy has been written following consultation between staff, governors, parents and pupils at English Martyrs Catholic School. Through our Homework Policy we aim to:

- ensure a consistent approach to homework across the school
- ensure parents / carers can support their children effectively
- extend and support our children's learning ensuring they all reach their potential
- contribute to good Home-School communication

**The Purpose of Homework**

At English Martyrs School we believe that homework is important because it:

- reinforces work done in school.
- helps to develop independent working.
- helps our Upper Key Stage 2 children establish good habits for Secondary School
- helps to raise children's attainment and identify areas for improvement
- gives parents an opportunity to spend time with their children and keeps them informed about class learning

**The Nature of Homework**

- Teachers will set the amount of work according to age and ability and the work should continue and consolidate weekly learning in class.

**Foundation Stage**

- Reading - completing Reading Record weekly and phonics.

## **Year 1**

- Daily Reading - completing Reading Record weekly and phonics practice.
- Weekly Mathematics exercises
- Weekly Spellings

## **Year 2**

- Daily Reading and completing Reading Record
- Weekly Spellings
- Weekly Math's activity using White Rose Progress Book or work set by teacher
- From Mid-Autumn Weekly Reading comprehension passage
- Half termly Topic homework e.g. a project about their History topic

## **Key Stage 2**

- Daily Reading and completing Reading Record
- Weekly spellings and definitions with sentences.
- Weekly Comprehension
- Weekly Math's activity using White Rose Progress Book or work set by teacher
- Half termly Topic homework e.g. preparing a presentation about their History or Making observations for Science.

## **Please Note**

- Children all have access to Purple Mash and LGFL online safety scheme. They are encouraged to use these resources at home; either as set specific tasks by the teacher or to enrich their learning from class as a voluntary extra homework activity.
- Please see RE Homework Policy for RE homework.

## **Expectations**

- Homework is to be done in pencil or black pen for writing if a pen license has been gained in Key Stage 2
- All lines must be drawn with a ruler using pencil only
- Neat and tidy handwriting to be used at all times
- Errors to be crossed out with a neat pencil line and not erased
- All working out will be shown for Math's calculations (if on paper)
- Homework must be handed in on time.

## **Communication**

- Staff will inform parents via Class Newsletters at the start of each long term as to homework arrangements for the year. These newsletters are also displayed on our school website.
- Children will have some weekdays and a weekend to complete the homework.
- Parents are encouraged to write comments to teachers under the completed piece of work.
- If work cannot be complete please make sure that the class teacher knows the reason why via a message or letter.

## **Marking and Feedback of Homework**

- Class teachers will mark homework tasks each week.
- Any common misconceptions will be addressed in class.

## **Support with Homework**

- Parents are encouraged to talk to class teachers if they have any queries regarding homework.
- Each child has a Google classroom logon which may be used for homework. If access to a computer is difficult the class teacher can provide similar work using worksheets. Parent must make this arrangement with the class teacher.
- Workshops for parents of children in Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 will be held in order to support parents.

## **Homework Club**

- At English Martyrs we recognise that completing homework for some pupils may present difficulties especially for parents with late hours in the evening.

To address this, we offer a Homework Club after school for After-school Club pupils.

- If homework is consistently not completed children will be given some teacher support during lunch-break or playtime. However, we would strongly urge that children (especially KS2 pupils) are encouraged by parents to finish homework and if they have a problem to discuss with the teacher as this develops a good routine for secondary school.

## **Responsibilities**

### **The Governing Body will:**

Take responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

### **The Headteacher will:**

Ensure that homework is built into teachers' planning and ensure consistency across the school

- Provide supportive guidance for parents
- Keep up to date with new developments with regards to homework
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of this policy

### **Teachers will:**

- Integrate homework into their planning
- Set a variety of tasks and activities for homework
- Set homework appropriate for each child
- Explain when, what and how the work will be done so that each child clearly understands what he/she must do
- Provide opportunities for the sharing of homework tasks in class as appropriate and provide timely feedback to pupils
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of this policy

### **Parents / Carers are asked to:**

- Read with their child and make a note in their child's Reading Record.
- Support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework is completed
- Be actively involved in the homework of their children
- Contact the class teacher/ school if they are not sure of some aspect of the homework or their child is experiencing any difficulty.
- Contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of this policy

### **Children are asked to:**

- Complete their homework and hand it in on time
- Listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them
- Attempt all homework activities and take a pride in their work.
- Act on feedback given by the teacher

Policy written: February 2020 – Reviewed October 2023