

Homework Policy

Policy date: November 2023

Review date: November 2025

Inspiring Learning, Nurturing Wholeness

At St Paul's we believe that learning goes well beyond the classroom and parents are an integral part of developing these opportunities. Our priority is to offer supportive and enriching learning tasks that nurture curiosity and academic development. Homework is set with a keen awareness of the children's developmental needs, ensuring that it complements learning that has already been explored in school to still leave ample time for play, family interactions, and a good night's rest. By setting age-appropriate expectations and providing clear guidelines, we aim to make homework a positive and meaningful aspect of our children's educational journey.

Our aims

We aim to give homework that:

- Is manageable by the child.
- Supports learning.
- Gives priority to reading.
- Encourages parents to talk about the learning with children.
- Is limited in amount as children need time to play after school.
- Makes the setting and marking of work manageable for teachers.
- Encourages responsibility and independence in learning.
- Towards the end of KS2, prepares children for Homework expectations in KS3 and beyond.

Expectations

Below are the expectations for each year group. The level and amount of Homework set for each year group will increase as the children move up the School.

For Early Years and KS1 (Years R to 2) Homework will be either based around Reading Books or set on paper which will be sent home in books bags.

For KS2 (Years 3-6) Homework will start, in Year 3, being set on paper and progress through the year groups to be completely set, in Year 6, using Microsoft TEAMS.

Year R

- Reading of stories by parents, carers or older siblings to children, preferably every day.
- Talking about the pictures in the book (what might happen next etc.)
- Materials to support children learn their sounds, key words and early reading.
- Listening to the child read their reading book which will come home each week. ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.***
- Handwriting (not every week).

Year 1

- **Reading** – children should aim to read their school reading book 5 times per week and share story books with an adult. (This can be the adult reading to the child or the adult and child taking turns to read). ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.*** From the Spring term we will also ask parents to support with some additional phonics practice.
- **Maths** – using **Numbots** to practise subitising, number bonds and addition and subtraction. Aim to practise for 5 - 10 minutes three times a week.
- **Spelling** – From Spring term (after Christmas 2023) children should practise their spellings on spellingshed.com. (Logins will be provided). Aim to practise for 5 - 10 minutes three times a week.

Year 2

- **Reading** – children should aim to read their school reading book 5 times per week and share story books with an adult. (This can be the adult reading to the child or the adult and child taking turns to read). ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.***
- **Maths** – using **MyMaths** to complete homework tasks linked to what they have been learning in the week. From Spring term (after Christmas 2023) using **Numbots** to practise subitising, number bonds and addition and subtraction or **MyMaths**. Aim to practise for 5 - 10 minutes three times a week.
- **Spelling** – children should practise their spellings on spellingshed.com at least three times per week. Aim to practise for 5 - 10 minutes three times a week.

Year 3

- **Topic Homework Project** – this will be set half termly and will be linked to History/Geography learning. The whole half term will be given for this Project.
- **Reading** – children should aim to read *at least* five times per week to an adult and complete their Reading Record. ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.***
- **Spelling** – children should practise their spellings on spellingshed.com at least three times per week. Aim for around 20 minutes in total.
- **Maths** - using **MyMaths** to complete homework tasks linked to what they have been learning in the week. Allow 20 minutes for this. **TTRockstars** should be completed at least 3 times a week for at least 10 minutes each time.

Year 4

- **Topic Homework Project** – this will be set half termly and will be linked to History/Geography learning. The whole half term will be given for this Project.
- **Reading** – children should aim to read *at least* five times per week to an adult and complete their Reading Record. ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.***
- **Spelling** – children should practise their spellings on spellingshed.com at least three times per week. Aim for around 20 minutes in total.
- **Maths** - using **MyMaths** to complete homework tasks linked to what they have been learning in the week. Allow 20 minutes for this. **TTRockstars** should be completed at least 3 times a week for at least 10 minutes each time.

Year 5

- **Topic Homework Project** – this will be set half termly and will be linked to History/Geography learning. The whole half term will be given for this Project.

- **Reading** – children should aim to read *at least* five times per week to an adult and complete their Reading Record. ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.***
- **Comprehension** - 15-20 minutes comprehension task set each week.
- **Spelling** – children should practise their spellings on spellingshed.com at least three times per week. Aim for around 20 minutes in total.
- **Maths** - using **MyMaths** to complete homework tasks linked to what they have been learning in the week. Allow 30 minutes for this. **TTRockstars** should be completed at least 3 times a week for at least 10 minutes each time.

Year 6

- **Reading** – *at least* 20 minutes reading **per day**. Collect **5 WOW** words per week and look up their meanings in a dictionary. All reading (and WOW words) should be recorded on the Reading Record found on Teams. *You may also take a paper copy of the Reading Record which you can complete, photograph and upload to Teams or hand in on paper.* ***Please can parents sign reading records when their child has read.***
- **Comprehension** - 20-30 minutes comprehension task set each week.
- **English** - SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar).
 - 20 minutes per week set on SPaG.com (via link in Teams) **plus**
 - 20 minutes per week Spelling homework set on EdShed (via link in Teams) to learn focused spelling words.
- **Maths** - 30 minutes per week set on MyMaths.com (link in Teams) or focused Maths questions set on Teams. **TTRockstars** - 10 minutes at least 3 times per week to practise times tables. There will be battles between Juniper and Elm.

Marking of topic or project homework

- Homework such as Spelling and MyMaths will be marked via the site and assessed by the teacher. Homework set on paper will be marked in class or by the Teacher. Homework set on TEAMS will be marked by the teacher. Children will also be tested regularly on their Times Tables. Work linked to a project theme will be reviewed by the teacher and often shared with the rest of the class or other children in the School.

Additional information

- Homework will not normally be set in the week before, or during, a School Holiday (with the exception of Year 6 Easter Holidays optional SATs revision). However, we do encourage the children to continue with their reading practice and to complete their Reading Records during holidays.
- Please let us know if you have any queries concerning homework. Each **Year Group Team** can be contacted on the Posts page in TEAMS (KS2) or on the dedicated email address i.e. year2@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk or i.e. year6@stpauls-dorking.surrey.sch.uk.

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