St George's Church of England Infant and Preschool Home Learning Policy

Date: September 2023 Signed:
Review date: September 2026 Teaching and Learning Committee

Inspire, Believe, Achieve-With God, all things are possible, Matthew 19v26.
Be inspired with all our mind, believe in ourselves to achieve and flourish

The 6 Principles of Nurture:
The nurturing approach offers a range of opportunities for children and young people to engage with missing early nurturing experiences, giving them the social and emotional skills to do well at school and with peers, develop their resilience and capacity to deal more confidently with the trials and tribulations of life, for life.

1. Children's learning is understood developmentally
2. The classroom offers a safe base
3. The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing
4. Language is a vital means of communication
5. All behaviour is communication
6. The importance of transition in children's lives

Purposes of home learning (Homework)

1. To assist in the overall school aim of raising standards.
2. To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
3. To consolidate and practice skills learnt in school.
4. To consolidate and reinforce skills of English and Mathematics and other curriculum areas.
5. To extend school learning, for example through additional reading.
6. To develop organisational skills.
7. To develop self motivation.
8. To raise self esteem.
9. To ensure that the needs of the individual child are considered.
10. To provide opportunities for parents, children and school to work together in partnership.
11. To prepare the children for the next phase of their education.
12. To develop responsibility.

The role of Parents and Carers in supporting children (supported by the Home School Agreement)

In general terms parents and carers should:

1. Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place for the child to do their home learning – together with an adult – or help children attend other places where home learning can be done, such as a home learning club.
2. Make it clear to children that they value home learning and support the school in explaining how it can help learning.
3. Encourage children and praise them when they have completed home learning.
4. Ensure all home learning is returned to school on time.

Monitoring and Evaluating the Policy

1. The policy will be reviewed every three years.
2. The staff need to ensure that the review of the policy includes the information as to whether the policy of home learning is having a positive effect upon raising standards. Children's attitude towards home learning also needs to be monitored.

Recommended time allocation for home learning

Teachers will provide details of the type of home learning to be expected and a clear timetable at the beginning of the term. The topics for each term will be clearly explained in the teacher's termly letters to parents.

Objectives and Expectations

Key Stage 1

1. Home learning should match individual needs accurately, when appropriate
2. Outlined below are year group home learning tasks. Daily reading should occur throughout a child's time at St George's, the time devoted to it increasing as the child progresses.
3. Pupils' work will be marked promptly. They will receive clear feedback on their work as appropriate, if handed in on time.
4. Home learning will sometimes form part of a class discussion on a given topic and the children are expected to have completed the verbal assignment, in order to contribute to the class work. This work will not therefore be marked as such, but assessment will occur via discussion.
5. Times Tables tests and number addition/subtraction facts will be used in class situations.

Each term the children are given a range of Home Challenges which are linked to the theme/topic for the term. These are cross curricular and can be completed and shared within school. All children should read to an adult, daily. It is recommended that when parents hear their children read, they talk about the book, ask questions and start to encourage silent reading, talking to the child about the book afterwards.

Early Years Foundation Stage

- Reading – daily sharing of a book for 5 minutes.

Year One

- Reading - daily 10 minutes.
- Summer Term - cracking number

Year Two

- Reading – daily 10 minutes.
- Cracking number bonds/times tables

In addition to the above homework tasks, a Library book will be brought home to share.

Home access is available throughout the year for Reading Eggs, Maths Seeds and Purple Mash.

From time to time additional home learning activities are set by class teachers for children, for example, there may be occasions when Reading Projects or phonics tasks are encouraged at certain points throughout the academic year.