



Childwall Church of England Primary School – Homework Policy 2024/2025



Purpose and Aims

Purpose: The core purpose of homework at Childwall CE Primary School is to work in partnership with parents and families to help children develop, consolidate and celebrate their key learning skills and to extend opportunities for all children to become successful, engaged learners. All homework tasks will be linked to classroom work; either knowledge and skills that have just been taught or previous knowledge and understanding which children need to have retained to enable further learning.

Aims:

- To ensure that children have short, targeted opportunities to practise key skills in learning outside lessons, eg) reading skills; times tables; spelling patterns;
- To enable parents/carers to have a greater understanding of just what children are learning in school and give opportunities for children and families to discuss and share knowledge;
- To give opportunities for teachers and subject leaders to assess retained 'sticky' learning, to inform next steps planning and progression of skills and knowledge;

Provision & Rationale

Research studies from EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) have found that the **quality** of homework tasks has greater positive impact on children's learning than the **quantity**. There is some evidence from these studies that the impact of homework actually diminishes as the amount of time pupils spend on it increases. At Childwall CE Primary School, we have worked together as a whole school teaching team to develop a core homework strategy intended to maximise learning benefit, without impacting negatively on family time and opportunities for children to engage in other activities and interests. We have identified specific beneficial homework activities to be assigned in a consistent, manageable format, appropriate to the age and developmental stage of the children. We are also endeavouring to ensure consistency in how much homework parents/carers should expect their child to receive and how long they have to complete it. In doing this, we are trying to help families be able to plan short, focused times for homework, without a negative impact on family life.

Maths: In the early stages of school, maths activities that are set will enable you to share that week's learning with your child and for your child to practise and reinforce learning to ensure confidence and understanding. As the children progress into Year 2 and LKS2, children will be encouraged to frequently access Times Tables Rockstars as part of each week's homework expectation to develop rapid recall and confidence in times tables, essential for children to be able to access more complex maths learning as they progress through school. This is something that we would appreciate your support with at home. Once the children move into UKS2, teachers will assign activities to develop children's knowledge and rapid recall of other numerical facts eg) squared numbers, prime numbers, cubed numbers, factors etc. Again, confident knowledge and recall will enhance children's confidence and ability to access more complex maths learning moving forwards.

Reading: Once children in EYFS are fully settled into school, teachers will allocate two reading books weekly – one will be a specific decodable book that will directly match phonics learning and one will be selected by your child to be read for pleasure. EYFS staff will give parents/carers further guidance on how to structure short, enjoyable reading sessions with their child. As the children progress into KS1, children will bring home two reading books weekly – one will be a specific, decodable guided reading book, matching children's phonics learning, whilst the other will be a 'reading for pleasure' text intended to help build up children's prosody (reading expression) in reading aloud – eg) appropriate phrasing, pause structures, stress, rise and fall patterns, and general expressiveness.

The majority of children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6; and end of Year 2) will be assigned e-books, using our Boost platform. These have the advantage of being longer, engaging, animated texts with quizzes directly linked to the reading content. Most children will be assigned a new book every 2 weeks, matched to their reading ability and progress. Children in Key Stage 2 who are still developing their phonic decoding skills will be assigned additional reading to support this – class teachers will let you know if this applies to your child. Please let the class teacher know if you feel assigned books are not a good match for your child. Children also have access to our school library to select books to 'read for pleasure' at home.

Spelling: EYFS (Reception Classes) Class teachers will focus on learning 'tricky words' but there is no expectation for formal learning or testing of these whilst children's writing ability is still emerging. In Year 1 and 2 spellings will focus on key skills. These may be high-frequency words which children use lots in their own writing; it may be specific vocabulary linked to a subject topic; it may be developing children's use and understanding of a specific spelling pattern or common exception words. Children in Year 1 will not

be having a specific 'test' relating to these spellings; rather teachers will revisit them frequently in class, throughout the week, to develop deeper long-term embedded learning. From Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6; and end of Year 2) children will be assigned a specific spelling and/or grammar activity from Spelling Shed that links to the learning taking place in school and is matched to our revised fortnightly timetable for teaching of English.

Below is what you can expect to receive each week for your child depending on their year group. Details of weekly homework can also be found on our year group class pages:

EYFS:

- **Reading:** Once children are fully settled into school, EYFS teachers will allocate two reading books weekly – one will be a specific decodable book that will directly match phonics learning and one will be selected by your child to be read for pleasure if they wish to select one. EYFS staff will give parents/carers further guidance on how to structure short, enjoyable reading sessions with their child.
- **Spelling:** Each week your child will be given two Little Wandle phonics formation sheets that focus on two sounds. At the start of the spring term, class teachers will give you access to 'tricky words' lists but there is no expectation for formal learning or testing of these whilst children's writing ability is still emerging.
- **Maths:** Each week your child will be given a printed maths sheet to complete.

Year 1:

- **Reading:** Teachers will allocate two reading books weekly – one will be a specific decodable guided reading book, matching children's phonics learning, whilst the other will be a 'reading for pleasure' text intended to help build up children's prosody (reading expression) in reading aloud – eg) appropriate phrasing, pause structures, stress, rise and fall patterns, and general expressiveness.
- **Spelling and Maths:** During Autumn 1, teachers will send home a phonics **or** maths sheet to complete each week. Then from Autumn 2 children will be set a page from their CGP maths **or** SPaG book (alternating each week).

Year 2:

- **Reading:** Teachers will give the children two reading books weekly – one will be a specific decodable guided reading book, matching children's phonics learning, whilst the other will be a 'reading for pleasure' text (which they choose themselves) intended to help build up children's prosody (reading expression) in reading aloud – eg) appropriate phrasing, pause structures, stress, rise and fall patterns, and general expressiveness.
- **Spelling:** Class teachers will assign spellings to learn fortnightly. The children will also be assigned either a page from their CGP SPaG book **or** a SPaG Mastermind to complete via Google Classroom.
- **Maths:** Class teachers will assign times tables to learn fortnightly. The children will also be assigned either a page to complete from their CGP Maths book **or** a Maths Mastermind via Google Classroom. Additional Times Tables Rockstars practice at home, as frequently as you can manage, will greatly benefit your child's fluency and recall of times tables for use in their wider maths learning.

Year 3:

- **Reading:** Children will be allocated an E-Book fortnightly via our Boost platform.
- **Spelling:** Class teachers will assign spellings to learn fortnightly. Spellings will be set on a Monday and 'checked' two weeks later on the Friday. The children will also be assigned either a page from their CGP SPaG book **or** a SPaG Mastermind to complete via Google Classroom.
- **Maths:** Class teachers will assign times tables to learn fortnightly. Times Tables will be set on a Monday and 'checked' two weeks later on a Friday. The children will also be assigned either a page to complete from their CGP Maths book **or** a Maths Mastermind via Google Classroom. Additional Times Tables Rockstars practice at home, as frequently as you can manage, will greatly benefit your child's fluency and recall of times tables for use in their wider maths learning.

Year 4:

- **Reading:** Children will be allocated an E-book fortnightly from the Boost Platform.
- **Spelling:** Class teachers will assign spellings to learn fortnightly. The children will also be assigned either a page from their CGP SPaG book **or** a SPaG Mastermind to complete via Google Classroom.

- **Maths:** Class teachers will assign times tables to learn fortnightly. The children will also be assigned either a page to complete from their CGP Maths book **or** a Maths Mastermind via Google Classroom. Additional Times Tables Rockstars practice at home, as frequently as you can manage, will greatly benefit your child’s fluency and recall of times tables for use in their wider maths learning.

Year 5:

- **Reading:** Children will be allocated an E-book fortnightly from the Boost Reading Planet Platform.
- **Spelling:** Each fortnight, class teachers will assign spellings to learn **and** an activity from Spelling Shed to complete which matches their spelling list. The children will also be assigned either a page from their CGP SPaG book **or** a SPaG Mastermind to complete via Google Classroom.
- **Maths:** Class teachers will assign times tables to learn every week. The children will also be assigned either a page to complete from their CGP Maths book **or** a Maths Mastermind via Google Classroom. During weekly class arithmetic or mental maths tests, children will also revisit their knowledge and rapid recall of other numerical facts eg) squared numbers, prime numbers, cubed numbers, factors etc. Additional Times Tables Rockstars practice at home, as frequently as you can manage, will greatly benefit your child’s fluency and recall of times tables for use in their wider maths learning.

Year 6:

- **Reading:** During the autumn term, children will be assigned a page from their either their CGP Reading books on a rolling programme alongside CGP books for other core subjects. At the start of the Spring term, children will also be assigned activities to complete from their CGP SATs booster books.
- **Spelling:** Class teachers will assign spellings to learn **and** an activity from Spelling Shed to complete fortnightly. During the autumn term, children will also be assigned a page from their SPaG books on a rolling programme alongside CGP books for other core subjects week **or** a SPaG Mastermind to complete via Google Classroom. At the start of the Spring term, children will also be assigned activities to complete from their CGP SATs booster books.
- **Maths:** Class teachers will assign times tables to learn fortnightly. Additional Times Tables Rockstars practice at home, as frequently as you can manage, will greatly benefit your child’s fluency and recall of times tables for use in their wider maths learning. The children will also be assigned either a page to complete from their CGP Maths book on a rolling programme alongside CGP books for other core subjects **or** a Maths Mastermind via Google Classroom. At the start of the Spring term, children will also be assigned activities to complete from their CGP SATs booster books. During weekly class arithmetic or mental maths tests, children will also revisit their knowledge and rapid recall of other numerical facts eg) squared numbers, prime numbers, cubed numbers, factors etc.

Accessing Homework

- Homework will be assigned on class pages on the school website
- As identified above, some homework will require access to various learning platforms – Reading Planets, Spelling Shed, Times Tables Rockstars, Google Classroom – parents/carers should let school know if your child does not have a device to access these and we will seek to support
- School policy is to ensure that families have a week for homework to be accessed and completed; this is to allow you to plan homework around other family commitments and activities.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Improvement

Senior leadership and subject leaders will be monitoring the impact of our revised homework strategy, feeding this back to our governing body. We welcome any feedback from parents/carers and will also be consulting children to ensure that our homework offer is manageable and motivating and has a beneficial impact on children’s learning.