St John and St Nicolas Schools Federation

For the good of all through curiosity, creativity and love

Policy Title:	**Homework Policy**
Policy Reference:	**SJN039**
Description:	Outline of homework expectations
Status:	Approved by Governing Board
Category:	Non-statutory
Review frequency:	Every two years
Contact:	governors@stjohnandstnicolasschools.org.uk
Version:	**V1.2**
Other relevant policies:	Marking & Feedback
Date for Review:	**July 2028**

Change Record				
Version Number	**Date Approved**	**Governing Board Minute Reference**	**Description of Amendments**	**Review Date**
1.0	11.07.22	FGB minutes 23.5.22 FGB minutes 11.7.22	Prepared by Executive Head, reviewed by PWP and ratified by FGB	July 2024
1.1	2.7.24 15.7.24	S&C minutes 2.7.24 FGB minutes 15.7.24	Include vision statement, small changes to parents expectations. Update version number/dates	May 2026
1.2	14.7.26	FGB minutes 14.7.26	Update version number/dates, minor copy corrections items 2 and 3.	May 2028
1.3				
1.4				

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Homework Policy

At St John and St Nicolas Schools Federation, our vision is 'For the good of all – through curiosity, creativity and love.' This vision inspires everything that the federation does. It applies equally to all the federation's policies with the intention that our policies impact as fairly and positively as possible to meet the needs of all members of our schools' community.

1: Rationale:
Homework can make an important contribution to pupils' success at school, extending the challenges open to pupils and ensuring that teaching time is used to maximum effect. Children's progress in their learning is greatly improved by parental interest and support at home.

In line with our vision, we promote homework that encourages curiosity and creativity.

In our federation, we believe that there is an advantage in children spending regular periods of initially quite short time, on a variety of learning activities, supporting the work they do in class. Research shows a particularly strong correlation between children who read regularly for pleasure and their academic attainment and is therefore strongly encouraged from an early age

Homework can impact on the well-being of pupil and staff alike so it is always carefully monitored to ensure that it is proportionate and appropriate.

2: Homework makes the greatest contribution to learning when:
- There is a regular schedule so that teachers, children and parents know what to expect each week or term. This will be available for parents on the year group areas of the school website and will be discussed at the beginning of the year at the 'meet the teacher' session.
- Parents are encouraged and supported to be partners in their children's learning.
- Homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding, which is particularly important at this age, in English and Maths.
- Pupils are encouraged, as they get older, to develop the self-discipline and confidence needed to study independently preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

3: Our expectations of parents in supporting pupils' homework:

We hope that parents will:

- Value the opportunity they have to support their child's learning, and to share this positive attitude with their child.
- Encourage and praise their child when effort has been made and homework has been completed.
- Provide a suitably peaceful place where homework can be done, either independently or together with the adult, as appropriate.
- Encourage their child to complete tasks to the highest standard
- Discuss any problems or queries about homework in the first instance with the class teacher.

What parents can expect from our federation:

- We will put a high level of focus on children reading at home, as this will have the single biggest impact on curriculum progress. Each child will be provided with a reading record, and all children will be encouraged to read regularly at home.
- Almost all homework at St John the Evangelist School will have a Reading, Phonics or Maths focus.
- In Year 3, we will set homework that is focused on reading, spellings and multiplication tables.
- In Year 4, in addition to the above, we will introduce a piece of weekly homework alternating between Maths and English
- Our ambition/expectation is that all times tables (up to 12x12) are secure by the end of Year 4.
- In Years 5 and 6, we will introduce weekly homework in both English and Maths.

Homework is marked and/or discussed with pupils in line with the Marking and Feedback Policy.