



*'Knowing each child, growing each child, in God's love'*

# Tonwell St Mary's CE Primary School

## Homework policy

**1 John 4:16**

*And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.  
God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.*

**Date Agreed: July 2019**  
**Date for Review: September 2022**

## **1. Why set homework?**

Our School Vision and Values are 'Knowing Each Child, Growing Each Child, In God's Love'.

At Tonwell St Mary's we aim to help each child to:

- Develop a love, independence and resilience for learning
- Live life to its fullness and try new experiences respecting Christian and British values
- Be friendly and inclusive to all
- Contribute to our school and wider community
- Choose a lifestyle with healthy bodies and minds

We recognise that learning at home is an integral to ensure we achieve our vision and values for each child. Therefore, we must work in partnership with parents and carers.

Homework is a desirable, additional extension to children's work in school. It helps to:

- Develop an effective partnership between the school and parents/ carers
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding gained in school (Growing each child)
- Exploit resources for learning within the home
- Encourage children as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, preparing them for the requirements of secondary school (Develop a love, independence and resilience for learning).

## **2. What sort of work is set?**

Homework should normally be closely linked to learning being done in school. It generally provides opportunity for reinforcement, practice, extension or preparation for the work being done in the classroom.

At Tonwell St Mary's in KS1 and KS2, the main form that homework will take is in the 'Home Learning' book. Children in Years 1-6 are given weekly reading, spelling and maths skills to practise. Year 6 children are also given activities from booklets to support their English and maths learning.

Teachers add optional activities and web links to support further learning at home on the termly Curriculum Newsletters for each class.

## **3. How much homework can we expect a child to complete?**

In the first few years at the school children will be given shorter amounts of formal homework. However, by the time they leave school in Year 6, the children will have been used to a regular homework programme across their final year, preparing them for the transition to Year 7.

### **Early Years (Nursery and Reception)**

- Parents are expected to hear their child read, share a book with a child or read to their child for at least 10 minutes, five times per week and record this in their reading record.
- A newsletter with ideas for home learning is sent home regularly.

## **KS1/2 (Years 1 to 5)**

Weekly Home Learning:

- Parents are expected to hear their child read, share a book with a child or read to their child for at least 10 minutes, five times per week and record this in their Home Learning book.
- Set of spellings to learn for dictation each week sent home in the Home Learning book to practise at least five times per week.
- Children must practise maths skills (number bonds or times tables) at least 5 times per week.

Other homework:

- Teachers will record optional extra activities and web links to use at home on the termly Curriculum Newsletter.

## **Year 6**

Weekly Home Learning:

- A recommended English based activity
- A recommended maths based activity
- Set of spellings to learn for dictation each week sent home in the Home Learning book to practise at least five times per week.
- Children are expected to read with an adult for at least 10 minutes, five times per week and record this in their Home Learning book.

Other homework:

- Teachers will record optional extra activities and web links to use at home on the termly Curriculum Newsletter.

## **4. How often will homework work be set?**

When setting homework teachers should be aware of the additional demands which they will be making on the child (and on the family); they should be mindful of the child's ability and the home circumstances and try to ensure that their expectations are reasonable.

In KS1 and KS2 new spellings and Y6 activities are sent home on the Monday. The Home Learning book is checked the following Monday. This allows pupils a full weekend to complete activities.

Homework is marked in line with the school's feedback policy.

## **5. Supporting Parents**

Parents should see their role as being to encourage and support children in doing their homework, e.g. ensure that the appropriate time is spent on the work set and that suitable conditions are available in the home, not to do the work for them. Where teachers expect parents actively to help children with their work, this should be made clear and if necessary parents should be given the appropriate help, advice and training to enable them to help effectively. The class teacher will arrange time for children to read with an adult at school, if reading is not happening at home regularly, so that no child is disadvantaged.

