



Homework Policy

"Everyone who works with children should do what is in the best interests of the child."

Article 3 United Nations Rights of the Child

Principles:

At Trinity we believe that:

- Homework has to be both meaningful and manageable for children, teachers and parents. We should not just set homework for homework's sake.
- Homework should be used to consolidate, reinforce and practice the key skills of reading, spelling and times tables.
- The main academic teaching and learning takes place at school - not at home. We want to avoid homework where parents might have to support or even try to teach children who don't fully understand or remember how to do something. This creates unnecessary stress for all involved and ultimately might not help the child move on in their learning.
- Children work hard during the day at school and need time at home to relax, spend time with their family and friends and pursue their own interests. We know that a lot of children in the school are involved with clubs, sports and organisations after school. We think that this is really important for their development as individuals and for them to gain skills and talents outside learning. We wouldn't want too much homework to put pressure on these activities.

Regular homework

The regular homework that is set throughout the school will consist of:

- Reading
- Spelling practice
- Times table/number bonds practice

Reading –

- We want to foster a love of books and reading at Trinity School. To do this children will regularly bring home books to read and enjoy at home.
- We would like to encourage children to read at home at least 5 times a week for 10-20 minutes depending on their age and/or ability.

In Early Years and KS1

- The books that children bring home will be based on their current reading level as well as a library book they have chosen.
- Children might also be asked to access Bug Club books online.

In KS2

- Children are free to read what they want. This might be a book from home, a library book, one from class, a newspaper, a comic etc...
- A simple record of what books they have read will be kept.

Spelling –

- Throughout the school, spellings are assessed on a regular basis throughout the year, but this will not be in the form of a weekly test.

In KS2

- 9 words will be sent home in 'Zappers' books to practice and learn. These will be differentiated according to the child's spelling needs. These should be practiced regularly and in a variety of ways so that they are transferred to long term memory (and not just learnt for a test). Further details about 'zappers' are sent out by class teachers at the start of term.

In KS1

- Once the children are ready for spellings, spelling words will be sent home regularly to practice as above.

In Reception

- Sets of words are sent home to read and spell as, when and if it is appropriate.

Times tables (Year 2 – Year 6)

- We want children to practice times tables regularly at home. Teachers will send home some guidance on the sorts of times table facts that the children have to practice. Regular and varied practice of these tables over time are preferred in order for them to be transferred into long term memory so they have fluent recall of them when needed.
- Children can log into Times table Rockstars at home to support this.
- Teachers will carry out some assessments of timetables over the year.

Topic related work –

- Teachers might also send home some topic related work appropriate to the child's year group.
- This might be:
 - a topic-based activity that will result in a piece of work that will go in the child's final topic book;
 - an art/DT or science based activity to try at home.
- These should be designed to be enjoyable, interesting and creative tasks that children could work independently on or that, if necessary, adults and children can work collaborative on.
- Upper KS2 classes set projects to do over a period of time to help foster organisation and responsibility skills.

Target Practice –

- Teachers might also send home specific activities relevant to helping a child practice a current target they are working on.

Other homework information –

KS2 -

- Each teacher will send home a weekly homework information sheet with details of spellings and any particular homework that week.
- This needs to be signed each week by parents/carers.
- Pupils have a homework book or folder where all homework will be kept together.

KS1 and Early Years

- Pupils have a reading record to be completed and signed by parents/carers.

Some homework activities may be placed on Google Classroom or Tapestry.

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