

HOMework POLICY DOCUMENT

Reviewed September 2024



RATIONALE

We believe that through giving children tasks to complete at home strong links can be encouraged between home and school. The content of the homework should consolidate and extend the work the children have studied during school hours.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The school will...

- Encourage parents to get to know about their children's life in school and become actively involved in their education
- Develop children's confidence and self-discipline
- Encourage children to share learning they have completed at home which follows their individual interests
- Make homework balanced, manageable and suitable for each child's age, ability and aptitude
- Provide a home school reading record for communication between home and school
- Provide tasks related to English, Maths and cross curricular learning
- Provide parent information sessions so that they can effectively support their children in learning at home
- Set tasks which allow children to think independently and use their own preferred learning style
- Provide feedback to children/parents on homework tasks completed
- Provide an online portal for home learning (Google Classrooms)

Parents will...

- Provide a quiet, suitable place that children can do their homework
- Support children so that their homework task can be completed to the best of their ability
- Value children's work and praise their efforts
- Make homework part of a regular routine
- Talk to the children about what they have been learning at school

Whilst homework is not compulsory at primary level the staff and governors at St Leonard's Lower School strongly believe that home/school learning promotes pupil progress. We send home a variety of tasks and encourage parents to develop homework routines at this early age.

When children start at St Leonard's Lower School parents and the school sign a Home School agreement; part of this covers the school and parents commitment to supporting children with appropriate homework as set out in this policy.

GUIDELINES

Letters will be sent home from class teachers each September to give details to parents of new class routines and homework expectations.

We recommend the following as a guide:

	Reading	Spelling	Maths
Early years 4+	Daily (5-10 mins)	Letter formation Green word spelling practise 3 x weekly	5-10 minutes task time and a little bit of counting and talking each day
Years 1 and 2	Daily (10-15 mins)	Look, cover, write, check 3 x weekly practise	15-20 mins a week and some mental maths each day Numbots practise online
Years 3 and 4	Daily (15-20 mins)	Nessy Spellings 3 x weekly	20 mins a week and some multiplication tables each day- Times Tables Rockstars at least 3 x weekly

Home school communication

Contact details are provided for the class teacher (emails will be read and responded to during school hours).

Parents/children can also contact the teacher via Google Classrooms.

Reading

'Have you read at home at least 3 times this week?'

Children should read regularly to parents and family members at home. Reading at home is just as important as reading at school.

Reading books will be changed weekly.

In addition to the reading scheme the children will have the opportunity to choose a book from our school library to share with parents at home or read independently. Books will be issued on the timetabled day and should be returned a week later to exchange.

Spellings

Spellings will be sent home for the children to learn/practise. These spellings are taken from the National Curriculum spelling lists but may also contain topic spelling vocabulary or words that are frequently mis-spelt. Children are taught to learn spellings using the Look, say, cover, write, check learning strategy.

Spellings will be uploaded to Google Classroom.

The teachers will assess the children's progress with these spellings weekly during dictations and spelling tests.

A look, cover, write check sheet is available on the school website (found on the English page of the school website).

Maths

A maths task will be uploaded to Google Classroom each week related to the work that the children have completed in the classroom.

We also ask that parents continue to practise mental maths at home with their children to develop fluency in numbers and times tables.

There will be ideas for supporting mental maths activities posted in Google Classroom.

The school purchase Numbots for children to practise early number skills and Times Tables Rockstars for our key stage 2 children to practise their multiplication tables (in preparation for the year 4 screening assessment)

Take Home Tasks

'Take Home' tasks will be given to the children termly to be undertaken with the support of their family. Tasks will be creative in nature, topic based and will develop different skills. A choice of tasks will be given where possible.

All children's work will be valued by staff and other pupils and will not be seen as competitive or 'judged' in any way.

Pupil feedback is given via certificates and sometimes through whole class show and tell.

Early Years (4+)

The children in early years will bring home reading books and some sounds, red or green words to practice.

A short maths task is sent home weekly.

Take Home Tasks will also be sent home termly.

The School Website

There is lots of information about supporting learning at home on the curriculum areas of the school website.

[Curriculum | St Leonard's Church of England, VA Lower School \(stleonards.beds.sch.uk\)](http://stleonards.beds.sch.uk)

Please see your child's class page for further information about homework, learning and the curriculum.

Parent Information Sessions

Parent information sessions run each year covering topics such as how to support your child with maths, reading, spelling and grammar at home. Information on the school strategies used and practical advice for carrying out activities at home are shared with the parents who choose to attend. All information from these sessions are posted on the school website.

Marking and Feedback

All homework will be marked and feedback will be given.