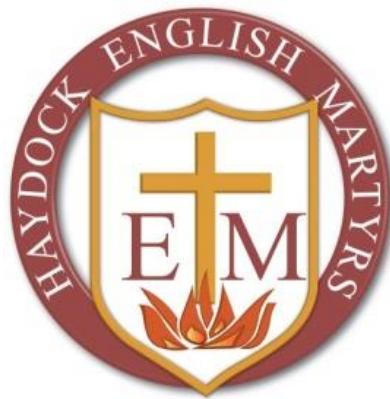


**HAYDOCK ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

# **HOMEWORK POLICY**



**September 2019**

## **HAYDOCK ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY**

Research over recent years in this country and in other countries has shown that homework or home activities can make an important contribution to children's progress at school.

Evidence from more recent OFSTED research suggests that homework makes the greatest contribution to learning when:

- Children and parents or carers are very clear about what they need to do,
- Parents and carers are treated as partners in their child's learning,
- Tasks are carefully planned and structured to support the progression of learning, as part of the school's schemes of work,
- Children receive prompt, clear feedback on their work,
- Homework policies are regularly monitored and evaluated to check that they support children's learning in the best possible way.

The Governing Body of our school sees homework as serving the following purposes:

1. To encourage self-study, self-discipline and personal organisation.
2. To create additional time for structured learning.
3. To extend the links between home and school.
4. To allow parents direct involvement in their child's learning.

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility;
- Ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account by differentiating work appropriately;
- Ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupils;
- Improve the learning experience through reinforcement and revision;
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership;
- Encourage parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences;
- Provide opportunities for pupils to develop life long learning strategies for future needs;
- Encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own and prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

## **HOMEWORK GUIDELINES FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS**

### **FOUNDATION STAGE**

In Nursery a topic information newsletter is available which informs parents about the specific topics being covered each half term, including copies of rhymes and songs, activity sheets for children and parent/child ideas for language development. Similar communication booklets are sent home in Reception in which a wide range of activities is outlined. These are based on a multi-sensory approach that include short, practical literacy and numeracy tasks. The emphasis is placed upon the use of language within a topic and offers ideas for how parents can work with their children at home. A range of resources and information is given to new reception parents during the course of the year. This provides a great deal of ideas of how to help their children at home.

The premise of this information is to aid each child in his/her learning. It is not a compulsory task, but is encouraged.

### **KEY STAGE 1**

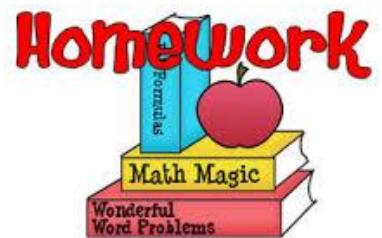
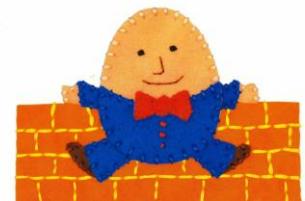
Activities should be short and of different kinds eg simple games, learning spellings/key words and number facts. Daily short periods of reading together is vital. Each child has their own home school reading log. Each week, in addition to regular reading children are given a specific task. These tasks will be related to work being carried out in school. More often than not they will be a literacy or numeracy task. However children will be encouraged to do homework relating to the wider curriculum. **Homework tasks/activities are given to every child on a Wednesday and should be returned to school on the Monday.**

We ask that all reading books are in school on a daily basis as they may be needed in the course of the day.

Parents wishing for more homework for their children are encouraged to go to the school library and choose homework from the homework resource box.

### **Humpty Dumpty**

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,  
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.  
All the King's horses and all the King's men,  
Couldn't put Humpty together again.



### **KEY STAGE 2**

As children get older homework provides the opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning, and this should increasingly become its main purpose. In the government's view the main focus of homework should be on literacy and numeracy. Science and other foundation subjects should be added to the homework programme as children move up the school, without losing the focus on literacy and numeracy.

Again children are encouraged to read daily and spend a little time each night learning their spellings and tables. Each child has their own home school reading log book. In addition they have a homework book detailing the work for the week. Parents are encouraged to sign the homework book and make any comments they wish in about their child's progress or to note any problems. **Other specific homework tasks/ activities are given to every child on a Wednesday and should be returned to the school on Monday.** Some longer projects may be given over a half term or a holiday.

We again ask that all reading books are in school on a daily basis as they may be needed in the course of the day.

Parents wishing for more homework for their children are encouraged to go to the school library and choose homework from the homework resource box.



## **RECOMMENDED TIME ALLOCATION FOR HOMEWORK**

Nursery & Reception

Optional activities

Year 1&2      approx 1 hour per week

reading, spelling, other literacy activities, numeracy activities, tasks to support the wider curriculum

Year 3&4      approx 1 – 1 ½ hours per week

reading, spellings, tables, other activities as year 1&2

Year 5&6      approx 2-2 ½ hours per week

as above. More homework can be expected as the national tests draw closer

Children's literacy and numeracy targets will be in their homework bag/ book. This is to ensure that parents are fully aware of their child's targets.