

## Homework Policy

<b>Name of School</b>	Church Crookham Junior School
<b>Date of Policy Issue/Review</b>	January 2025

<b>Introduction</b>	
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Homework is defined as tasks assigned to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of the regular school hours. These tasks are intended to reinforce learning, develop skills, and prepare children for upcoming lessons. At our school, we value the home-school partnership and aim to support our children to develop as independent learners.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child’s level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child’s growth and development. Whilst homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in a full range of clubs or activities out of school, which also play a significant role, including with their own personal mental health and wellbeing.

“Achievement by All” lies at the heart of children doing well in all aspects of their learning and personal development. Our pupils should enjoy their home learning and homework should be something all children are proud of and their achievements can be celebrated in school.

<b>Aims</b>	
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The aims of homework are to:

- **reinforce** and consolidate skills and concepts
- **encourage independent learning** and time management
- **involve parents** in their child’s education
- **prepare children** for future learning

We recognise that while homework is important, children's growth also depends on play, relaxation, and extracurricular activities. Our aim is to balance academic demands with personal well-being. Homework tasks are:

- purposeful, relevant, and achievable
- adapted to the needs and abilities of individual students
- integrated with class learning and evaluated through feedback

If any child is finding homework a challenge then we would urge parents to contact their child's teacher to discuss this and avoid having difficult and challenging times at home.

<b>Homework Expectations</b>	
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Homework is an integral part of the curriculum and it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning.

Children will have a defined length of time to complete homework tasks, however for certain tasks, they are welcome to bring them in as they complete them before the deadline. Verbal and written feedback will be given to the children where necessary, and where possible, learning outcomes will be displayed and celebrated in school to show how valued their efforts have been. ***There are essential homework tasks and optional (extension) homework tasks.*** Children will receive a certificate for project homework completed to celebrate their efforts.

**The expectations for homework at our school are:**

**For Students:**

- to complete homework on time and to the best of their ability.
- to ask for help when needed.

**For Parents:**

- to provide a quiet space and support your child in managing their time.
- to encourage and praise effort.
- to communicate with teachers if your child struggles.

**For Teachers:**

- to assign meaningful tasks that are proportionate to students' age and ability.
- to provide clear instructions and timely feedback.
- to be available for discussions about challenges or adjustments.

Homework Tasks include:

**Reading:**

- Daily independent reading, recorded in a reading log.
- Reading aloud to an adult is encouraged to build fluency and comprehension

**Times Tables:**

- Practice using Times Tables Rockstars.
- Taking part in class and school-wide competitions foster engagement

**Spellings:**

- Weekly spelling lists focusing on phonics, morphology and etymology as a lot of the spellings are based on spellings patterns, prefixes/suffixes, etc.
- Formal tests to assess progress.

**Project Homework /Additional English and Maths (in the Upper School):**

Optional creative projects and pieces of work to deepen understanding of topics

Church Crookham Junior School

<b>Homework Timetable</b>	
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Homework is set, as follows:

Years 3 and 4	Details	Days Handed Out	Days Handed Back In
Reading Homework	<b>Essential</b> homework which should be completed as a <b>minimum of three times a week</b> .	Monday	Monday
Spellings (to be practised in their spelling book using suggested activities or using Spelling Frame)	<b>Essential</b> homework where children will learn their spellings each week for a weekly test.	Monday	Monday
Times Tables (15 mins per week)	<b>Essential</b> homework where children will learn their times tables and complete on Times Tables Rockstars.	Monday	Monday
Project Homework	<b>Extension</b> homework which includes two options to be completed and the tasks may include maths, English or another subject. Two tasks should be completed. <b><i>Children will have three weeks to complete this homework.</i></b>	Monday	Monday

Years 5 and 6	Details	Days Handed Out	Days Handed Back In
Reading Homework	<b>Essential</b> homework which should be completed as a minimum of three times a week.	Monday	Monday
Spellings	<b>Essential</b> homework where children will learn their spellings each week for a weekly test.	Monday	Monday
Times Tables	<b>Essential</b> homework where children will learn their times tables and complete on Times Tables Rockstars.	Monday	Monday
Maths and English Homework	<b>Extension homework</b> alternating each week between maths and English. Maths will be on 'My Maths' learning platform. English homework will be stuck in to the children's exercise books. Maths will be given feedback through 'My Maths' website.	Monday	Monday
Project Homework	<b>Extension</b> homework which includes one task to be completed as a minimum - the tasks may include maths, English or another subject. <b><i>Children will have half a term to complete this homework.</i></b>	Monday	Monday

Homework will not be set in the first or last week of term, with the exception of reading homework and spelling homework which is set each week.

If a child has not completed their homework by the given deadline, they will get a 'grace day' to then bring their homework in the next day. If they do not complete their homework, they will be kept in to complete the homework for the **essential** tasks and parents will be contacted to ask if we can offer any additional support in enabling the children to manage this expectation.

<b>Inclusion</b>	
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We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We endeavour to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. Teachers consider the different needs of the different learners in their classrooms, such as children with special education needs and those who have English as an Additional Language.

Where there are children who are struggling with the completion of home learning, there are opportunities provided by the class teachers for these difficulties to be discussed and work to be completed. Teachers may signpost parents seeking additional home learning but are under no obligation to provide additional home learning packages for individual pupils. Some pupils may benefit from additional tasks to help fill gaps in learning identified in the classroom. Class teachers will contact individual parents where this may be the case. When in doubt, parents should speak to the class teacher setting the home learning for clarification.

Homework should not interfere with extracurricular activities or family time. Teachers and parents work together to ensure children maintain a healthy balance.

<b>How Parents can Help with Homework</b>	
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You can show that you value your child's homework by:

- providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support
- making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can consolidate learning
- encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set
- signing and dating your child's completed homework to show that it is a true reflection of their best efforts
- ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time
- checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework

Additionally, you can support your child's development by:

- visits to libraries, museums etc.
- cooking with them
- taking your child swimming
- playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games
- watching informative TV programmes together
- providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- gardening and growing plants

- using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning. Remember: Homework is about reinforcing, practicing and confidence building.

***If a child is not managing with the homework tasks, we urge parents to contact the teacher in order to ensure that appropriate support and necessary adjustments can be made to help your child succeed and feel confident in their learning.***

<b>Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)</b>	
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Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Bard. Our school recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also lend itself to cheating and plagiarism.

Pupils may use AI tools as a research tool to help them find out about new topics and ideas.

Pupils may not use AI tools:

- during assessments
- to write their homework or class assignments, where AI-generated text is presented as their own work

<b>Monitoring and Review</b>	
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Monitoring of the effectiveness of this policy can be through a range of activities such as:

- Reviewing reading diaries/records and homework activities
- Asking parents for their views
- Asking children about their home learning and how this helps them make progress with their learning
- Reviewing progress of children

The policy is reviewed annually and updated as necessary.