

Bury Catholic
Preparatory
School
Homework Policy



Created by: Headteacher
Ratified by Governors
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Mission Statement

*BCPS is a happy and caring school community.
We follow Jesus' example to respect, value and nurture every unique individual
to develop their God given talents and potential.
We are a school where faith and future flourish.*

Homework Policy

Introduction

Bury Catholic Preparatory School views homework as an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Homework will be set daily from an early age and will be marked in exactly the same way as work done in school with its status being the same. This policy applies to the whole school, including the EYFS.

Aims

The reasons for setting homework are as follows:

- a) To reinforce classroom learning.
- b) To give extra opportunity to practise techniques learned in school such as spellings or the mechanics of number work.
- c) To encourage learning as a lifelong process.
- d) To promote an effective home/school partnership.
- e) To raise achievement.
- f) To support development of independent learning skills.
- g) To promote habits of enquiry and investigation.

Overview

Homework at Bury Catholic Preparatory School is not compulsory. However, homework will be set on a daily basis on school days for all children from Reception to Y6. It is given on a regular basis across the school following the schedule below. From time to time, homework may vary in response to a particular activity such as an educational visit. Homework content may be set as a written piece of homework or may include reading, games and activities to reinforce English, Maths or other skills. For older children homework may include finding out information, preparing a presentation, designing and/or making something, and solving problems. As with all work set, homework is monitored.

Juniors

Monday – Comprehension

Tuesday – Maths

Wednesday – Reasoning

Thursday – Grammar and Punctuation

Friday – Learning Logs

Reception, Y1 and Y2

Monday – Phonics/Spellings

Tuesday – Maths

Wednesday – Comprehension

Thursday – Grammar and Punctuation

Friday – Learning Logs

The amount of homework for the rest of the school will vary depending on the length of time children in a particular school year are expected to spend on it.

Reception and Y1 – about 15 minutes should be spent on homework.

Y2 – about 20 - 25 minutes should be spent on homework.

Y3 and Y4 – about 30 – 40 minutes should be spent on homework.

Y5 & Y6 – about 40 – 50 minutes should be spent on homework.

The gradual increase allows children to develop their skills and independence in completing homework and ensures that they are ready for the expectation of 45 to 90 minutes daily in Years 7 and 8. There will be children who do not complete homework within the allotted time but providing real effort can be seen to have been made this should be acceptable. Parents will be made aware of the time expected to be spent on homework in any particular class and that children will not be expected to greatly exceed this time. Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the class teacher. Before leaving the premises children will be asked to check if they have their homework, preferably in their homework folders. Children will be expected to complete spellings, times tables and reading as an ongoing concern each night and separate to the homework set. Children who are on the SEND register will have individual homework tailored to their needs.

Learning Logs

As part of our inclusive curriculum, all classes will be asked to complete learning log projects every term. These projects are linked to the class learning theme and children have a choice of which tasks they wish to complete at home. We believe the projects are a great opportunity for parents and carers to work alongside their child, enhancing their learning experience. The projects are shared with other classes and parents regularly.

Homework Diary

Both parents, children and teachers will have daily access to a Homework Diary in which particulars of the homework have been written by the children and checked by the teacher. On completion of the homework the parent will sign the Diary and Reading Record.

Nursery

Nursery children will have an individual reading book to take home on a daily basis (to be given out within the Autumn Term), as well as an activity sheet. At the weekend they will also have a Memory Book in which to record any activity they participate in at that time as well as logging what they have been learning about in school.

Non – Completion of homework.

Homework is not compulsory. Few children will complete every assignment set every day of their school careers. There will be some occasions when it is unreasonable to expect that homework should have been done.

Reading

We would hope that children read daily and that reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. This would include fostering early reading skills, where appropriate. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading.