

St. Peter's RC Primary School

Homework Policy **October 2020**



Article 3 (best interests of the child) The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

Article 5 (parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities) Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to provide guidance and direction to their child as they grow up, so that they fully enjoy their rights. This must be done in a way that recognises the child's increasing capacity to make their own choices.

Article 28 (right to education) Every child has the right to an education.

Article 29 (goals of education) Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Rationale

- We believe that homework activities provide the opportunity for children to consolidate the work they do in school.
- Working at an individual pace, children take some responsibility for their own learning and develop study skills, supported by their families.
- We recognise that parents play, and wish to play, an important role in their child's education. Parents have indicated a wish to know more about their child's homework.
- Homework gives parents an insight into the work their children do in school and promotes communication between children, parents and teachers. We value the opinions of parents and aim to work in partnership with parents to help children to learn.

We recognise that children work hard in school and they need to rest, relax and develop their relationships and interests at home. Time allocated for homework will enable independent learning but should not interfere with leisure activities.

Implementation of the policy

- The success of homework activities depends upon the co-operation and goodwill of parents and carers to support their children and the school staff.
- Each child will be trained to use Google Classroom and educational websites in school. Guidance will be given to parents to support children to complete their homework.
- The interest and encouragement of their parents help to motivate children but undue pressure should not be exerted on a child who is experiencing difficulty with a homework task.
- If children are unsure about any aspect of their homework, they should inform the teacher at the earliest opportunity.
- Parents can contact the class teacher about any homework concerns by e-mailing stpeters@aberdeencity.gov.uk or phoning the school office.

Covid-19 Guidelines - No material, objects or paper should be brought into school. All homework will be done digitally.

Homework Activities

Each class teacher sets homework that is appropriate to the child's need and ability. The type, amount and frequency of homework will vary between classes but each class teacher will make the expectations clear to the children and parents. Expectations will be shared by speaking to children in class and to parents at the beginning of session 'Meet the Teacher' event. Written information will be stuck into the front of homework jotters and posted on Google Classrooms.

- Each class has a Homework section on **Google Classroom** where teachers will post activities. Homework can be assigned to individual pupils or groups.
- Pupils should complete the assignments and use the 'Hand In' button on Google Classroom to let their teacher see their work. This is preferable to uploading work to the class stream where everyone in that classroom (and their family members) can read each post.
- The '**Marvellous Me**' app will be used to inform parents about home learning activities and to award house points and badges for homework.
- Pupils' log in details for websites are stuck into the front of their homework jotters - www.educationcity.com (Literacy, Numeracy, Science, French) www.rmeasimaths.com www.my.risingstars-uk.com (Reading)

No homework is given at weekends or over holiday periods (although some teachers may include weekend and/ or holiday periods in the timeframe for a longer piece of work.)

<u>Early stages P1-P3</u>	<u>Middle and Upper stages P4-P7</u>
<p>Literacy Children read aloud regularly in class to the class teacher. As their fluency and confidence increase, they join reading groups and other reading skills are encouraged. Reading homework will be set using https://my.risingstars-uk.com/. Parents are encouraged to help and listen to their children read.</p> <p>Children in P1 are learning sounds and words. The sounds of the week are sent home using www.educationcity.com and Google Classroom</p> <p>In P2 and P3, spelling activities and using new words in sentences such as creating small information books or posters are encouraged.</p> <p>Maths homework sometimes takes the form of games that reinforce skills, understanding and knowledge.</p>	<p>Literacy Reading and comprehension tasks are set on https://myrisingstars-uk.com</p> <p>P4 - P7 children have Accelerated Reader log ins. Although they cannot take their Accelerated Reader books home at present, they are encouraged to read other books at home and, if there is an associated quiz, they can do this online.</p> <p>Class spelling activities will be reinforced with homework. In the Upper Stages, word lists are formed from words that are commonly misspelt in the children's own writing.</p> <p>Thinking, talking and research activities may be set to help children to prepare for writing activities in school.</p> <p>Maths homework is varied and may take the form of practical tasks where children apply their developing knowledge and skills eg in measuring. Children will be expected to practise concepts they are learning in class. At all stages, times table facts and number bonds will be reinforced by homework tasks.</p>

Monitoring the policy

- As part of Quality Assurance procedures, all homework is monitored by the Headteacher or Depute Headteacher. During classroom visits and discussions about learning and teaching, a sample of homework activities are examined.
- Pupil, parent and staff opinions about homework are sought annually at Pupil Council, Parent Council and staff meetings and through confidential questionnaires.