



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Homework Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 This policy aims to set out the expectations for homework across The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies. It will ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the academies and confirm the expectations and role teachers, parents and children play with regards to homework.

1.2 This policy for writing reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and has the full agreement of the Governing Body.

2 What is the purpose of homework?

2.1 The purpose of homework is to consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy.

2.2 Homework provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.

2.3 Homework allows children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

3 Roles and Expectations

3.1 The Role of the Federation is:

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework and ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.

3.2 The role of the teacher is:

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To mark homework.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

3.3 What is the role of the parent/carer?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

3.4 What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

4 Implementation

4.1 Homework in Reception

Learning together is the emphasis for children in Reception. The activities are Numeracy and Literacy based with a strong emphasis on reading together. It is an ideal time to lay the foundations for continuing work at home. Homework may be set or uploaded using the 'Tapestry' system where learning journals are recorded and shared online. Types of homework children will get in reception are:

- Daily reading - Adults reading to children and/or children reading to an adult. This should be recorded in reading records.
- Letter formation.
- Tricky Words.
- Counting

4.2 Homework in KS1

For children in Key Stage One, we encourage parents to work together with their child to support them with their homework. The emphasis remains on Literacy and reading, but we include ways in which children can be supported with important numeracy skills creative homework tasks too.

Homework in KS1 will consist of:

- Daily Reading - This should be recorded in reading records.
- Spellings or phonics words
- Homework tasks from menu
- Times table practise

4.3 Homework in KS2

As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skill of independent learning. It is important that parents support their children, but good habits of independent study should be encouraged.

The main focus for homework in Key Stage 2 continues to be Literacy and Numeracy; however children will be given more varied tasks in other areas of the curriculum. Homework in KS2 will consist of:

- Daily Reading – This should be recorded by parents or children in their reading records.
- Spellings
- Homework tasks from menu
- Times table practise

- Year 6 children may be given additional homework tasks which will replace learning logs in the spring term to support their preparation for KS3 and statutory assessments.

5 Homework Task Menus

5.1 Tasks are a way to encourage children to become independent learners and take pride and ownership of their homework. At the start of each term learning tasks will be given to each child in KS1 and KS2. There will be a range of literacy, numeracy and curriculum based tasks that complement the curriculum for that term. Children will be able to choose the order in which tasks are completed within the given timeframe and how they wish to present their learning. For example a task could be presented through artwork, an oral presentation, computing, photography, posters or a written piece.

5.2 Homework will need to be handed in within the time frame set by the teacher and will be marked and handed back so the next task can be completed.

6 Expectations

6.1 How long should be spent on homework each week:

<u>Year Group</u>	<u>Homework Task</u>	<u>Duration</u>
Reception	Reading Tricky words Letter formation Counting	15 minutes daily on any of the agreed tasks with an adult. Reading should be recorded in reading records
Year 1	Reading phonics words	15 minutes daily with an adult
	Homework Menu Task	30 minutes every fortnight
Year 2	Reading Spellings Times tables	15 minutes daily with an adult on any combination of the agreed tasks. Reading should be recorded in reading records
	Homework Menu Task	30 minutes weekly
Year 3/4	Reading Spellings Times tables	15 minutes daily on any combination of the agreed tasks. Reading can be both independent reading or reading to an adult and recorded in reading records.
	Homework Menu Task	30 minutes weekly
Year 5/6	Reading Spellings Times tables	15 minutes daily on any combination of the agreed tasks. Reading can be both independent reading or reading to an adult and recorded in reading records.
	Homework Menu Task	45 minutes weekly

6.2 When tasks are handed in, teachers will tick or initial homework with a purple pen to show homework has been marked. Some homework may be 'quality marked' where more detailed feedback is given. If next steps are given on homework then this should be completed with the following weeks learning task.

6.3 Homework should be completed and handed in on the set day. This will be agreed by each school and parents will be informed at the start of each school year. If homework is handed in late then teachers may not be able to mark the homework in time to return it for that week. If there is a problem with handing in homework parents or children should discuss this with the class teacher. There may be occasions when a child will miss playtime or some of a lunch time, if they have not completed homework.

6.4 A guide to support parents/carers with homework will be made available on the Federation website.

7 Monitoring and Evaluation

7.1 In order to ensure that the policy directly contributes to the quality of teaching and learning the provision of homework will be regularly monitored. A sample of homework and planned activities will be reviewed by a member of the Senior Leadership Team annually as part of the school's self-evaluation process. Parents will also be given opportunities to share their views with teachers at parent consultations and other occasions as appropriate.

8. Review

8.1 The Headteacher, staff and Governing Body will review this policy every two years.

Ratified by Governors: 24/01/2017

Signature:

Review Due: 24/01/2019

Responsibility of Standards Committee