



Toddington St George Church of England School Homework

Introduction

At Toddington St George Church of England School we believe that parents are a child's first and enduring teachers. They play a crucial role in helping their children learn. Where parents are involved with their children's education and learning both at home and in partnership with the school, their children do better and achieve more. These benefits can be long-lasting and extend to better health, relationships and improved employment prospects.

We made this book entitled 'Homework' following a consultation process with parents. Previous parents have found it very useful, we hope you do too. We welcome any feedback and further ideas so we can keep this leaflet up to date. If you have any comments please speak to your child's teacher.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the creation of this leaflet.





The benefits of parental involvement for the children are:

- It is easier for children to learn when they get encouragement from home
- They will do better and achieve more when their parents are involved
- Children get access to more activities in and out of school when there are more adults to help
- Their concerns can be sorted out more quickly when their parents have a positive relationship with school staff
- They are happy when their parents are enjoying events in the school

The benefits of parental involvement for parents are:

- Their children do better when they are involved
- They are better able to help and encourage their children
- They have more information about their children's education
- Parents can build their own confidence and skills
- Where there is a positive relationship between parents and their child's school there are benefits all round
- Parents get reassurance that their children are receiving a good education

Why is homework important?

From studies of effective teaching, we know there is a positive correlation between homework as a learning tool and student achievement in the classroom.

Homework

- Helps children develop positive study skills and habits that will help them well throughout life
- Teaches children to take responsibility for their work
- Allows children to review and practice what has been covered in class
- Helps children to get ready for the work to come
- Helps children learn to use resources, such as libraries, reference materials, and computer web sites to find information
- Encourages children to explore subjects more fully than classroom time permits
- Allows children to extend learning by applying skills to new situations
- Helps children integrate learning by applying many different skills to a single task, such as with take home tasks
- Helps parents learn more about what their child is learning in school
- Allows parents to communicate about what he or she is learning
- Encourages parents to spark their child's enthusiasm
- Improves children's thinking and memory
- Encourages children to work independently
- Encourages children to use time wisely





What are the expectations of homework at TSG?



How much homework should my child be doing?

In Reception children will be given keywords and tricky words to learn during the year. They also have a reading book and a library book which are changed weekly. The library book is one parents/ carers can read to their child. This should take about an hour over a week.

In Key Stage 1 children should be completing between one and two hours of homework a week. Timings are approximate and will vary child to child. We expect children to do reading each day, spellings and Maths. There will be extra spelling sentence homework for Year Two children in the run up to the assessments at the end of the year.

In Key Stage 2 children are expected to do between two and three hours of homework each week. Timings are approximate and will vary child to child. This will consist of reading each day, spellings and Maths.

As well as the weekly homework; children are asked to complete a half termly take home task. The length of time and skills involved will vary.

Please see the homework policy on the website for specific guidelines.

How should homework be completed?



The above timings are a guideline. Children should have no distractions during this time- electronic devices off please. Shorter regular slots which are part of the family routine are better than one long time.

How much help do I give?



Children vary in their confidence and independence. We expect that homework, including the take home tasks will be a supported activity.



What do I do if the homework is too hard?



Teachers try to set differentiated work so that it matches children's ability but if your child finds the homework too difficult, even after you have tried to explain it; please return it to school with a note to this effect. The class teacher then knows they have to teach this again.

What do I do if the homework is too easy?



Teachers try to set differentiated work so that it matches children's ability but if your child finds it straight forward there are a number of things you can do. Can you extend the task? E.g. in a money task you could work with coins of a greater value/ in a number task you could work with larger numbers or different operations. Please return the homework to school with a note so the teacher knows.

What do I do if I don't understand the homework?



If your child is given homework and you are unclear about what it means or how to tackle it. The best thing you can do is ask your child's teacher. They will explain what the children have covered and how to set the homework in context for you.

What happens to homework on its return to school?



Homework is marked by the class teacher; so any comments about it are very helpful. This helps the class teacher with planning future work. Children who complete homework are rewarded in some way e.g. receiving a sticker.

Thank you for your continued support of the school