



# Norton St Nicholas CofE (VA) Primary School

Norton Road, Norton, Letchworth Garden City,  
Hertfordshire SG6 1AG.



Headteacher: Mr S Cowdery

tel: 01462 623322

fax: 01462 623355

e-mail: [admin@stnicholas23.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stnicholas23.herts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.stnicholas23.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stnicholas23.herts.sch.uk)

## Homework Policy

At Norton St Nicholas, we believe that there should be a positive partnership between home and school; homework is a key part of this. It offers children the opportunity to become independent learners, to practise and apply skills learned in the classroom, to develop attitudes that they need for successful lifelong learning and to prepare children for secondary school.

Homework is an opportunity to extend learning beyond the classroom and make connections with 'real life' contexts. It is also important that homework is seen as an enjoyable complement to what happens at school. We would like to provide opportunities not only to reinforce key skills in Literacy and Maths, but also for children to learn more across a range of subjects.

The school will endeavour to:

- provide opportunities to develop skills outside of school through a range of stimulating tasks.
- develop creativity in homework.

### Reading at Home

- We expect all children to read at home on a daily basis; this is a 'must' home learning activity for all children.

### Homework Timetable

Class	Must Homework		Could Homework
	Literacy	Maths	
Class R	Activities to include: Practising letter formation Practising sounds Tricky words weekly		'Could' homework tasks will be more creative, cover a range of skills and learning and be set over a prolonged period of time. As these are 'could' tasks they are not compulsory. The children who do complete the tasks will have the opportunity to present their home learning to their class.
Class 1	Weekly spellings and a fortnightly activity	A fortnightly activity	
Class 2	Weekly spellings and a fortnightly activity	A fortnightly activity	
Class 3	Weekly spellings Weekly literacy task	Timetable Rock Stars Weekly Maths	
Class 4	Weekly spellings Weekly literacy task	Timetable Rock Stars Weekly Maths	
Class 5	Weekly spellings Weekly literacy task	Timetable Rock Stars Weekly Maths	
Class 6	Weekly spellings Weekly literacy task	Timetable Rock Stars Weekly Maths	
	SATs revision as appropriate		

### Homework in Year 6

Homework is a very useful tool in Year 6 to transition the children to life beyond primary school and prepare the children for the expectations of secondary school. For this reason the homework set in Year 6 may occasionally differ to the timetable above.

## **Homework timings, holidays and absence**

- We recognise that children and families can often be very busy out of school, so we rarely set homework to be returned the following day.
- Homework set will, wherever possible, allow a combination of weeknights and weekend time. Weekly tasks will usually be set from a Thursday to a Tuesday.
- With the exception of SATs revision tasks in Year 6, no formal homework will be given out during school holidays, informal/optional tasks may be offered that will consolidate your child's previous learning or nurture future learning.
- No homework will be given during Parent Consultation weeks.
- If your child completes their 'must' homework tasks to a good standard for 5 consecutive weeks they will be rewarded with a week without homework; however, during such weeks, daily reading, spelling and times table practice are expected.
- If children are absent due to illness it will be assumed that they are too ill to work and therefore homework will not be sent home.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Headteacher first.
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.

## **Additional tasks**

- Each class teacher may also send work home to be finished off.

## **Inclusion**

- If your child has been given an APDR (Assess, plan, do, review) their targets will involve work at home agreed at the target setting meeting.
- Children who receive Tracks support will not receive extra class spellings – the Tracks words will be considered to be their spellings to learn and practice at home.

## **General notes regarding homework**

- It is important that children of all abilities are set appropriate homework. Weekly homework activities may be differentiated according to children's ability or tasks may be set for children to complete at their own level of understanding.
- Staff will also aim to ensure that there is a wide variety of tasks that will be of interest to all children.
- If home circumstances make completing a piece of homework very difficult, then parents or children are encouraged to inform the class teacher and, if appropriate, time or resources will then be made available to children in school.
- If a child cannot access the Internet at home for example, then arrangements will be made for them to use the Internet at school for research or to develop skills.

## **Relationship to other policies**

The policy refers to commitments made in the home-school agreement.

## **Role of the School**

The school leadership will ensure that homework is:

- appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils;
- coordinated in order to be manageable for children on a daily basis.

Teachers will ensure that:

- where appropriate, an explanation of homework task is given to children and parents;
- there is regular homework set up in an easily followed routine;
- any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught;
- children who regularly complete homework tasks are rewarded and praised;
- homework is marked, when necessary, with feedback in line with the Marking and Feedback Policy;
- tasks are differentiated and well structured;
- pupils understand the purpose of the homework tasks;
- it is clear to pupils how their homework consolidates and extends the work they are doing in school.

## **Role of Pupils and Parents**

Pupils will

- complete their homework to the best of their ability in a well presented manner;
- demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time completing the tasks set;
- return their work on time.

Parents will:

- support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework;
- provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework;
- encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework;
- become actively involved and support their child with homework activities;
- sign completed homework;
- provide written feedback when appropriate;
- make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

## **Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation**

- Class teachers will monitor homework by checking pupils' work. The governing body or its Curriculum Committee will, during the course of the policy, survey a random sample of parents and pupils for their views on the effectiveness of the current practice and the effectiveness of this policy.

## ***A Final Note***

REMEMBER, homework is meant to be an enjoyable and worthwhile activity for all and should not be allowed to cause distress to pupils, parents or teachers! Please discuss any problems with the class teacher concerned as soon as they arise.

Further information about helping your child at home can be found on the school website.

**Reviewed: March 2015**

**Next Review Date: March 2018**

***This policy has been reviewed and has been assessed as being compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010***