



St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

Policy	Home Learning
Author	Ros Ost
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Introduction

Learning is a life-long process that begins at home with parents as the first educators. At St Agatha's Catholic Primary School, we define 'Home Learning' as learning activities that children do outside of the normal school day and that contributes to them gaining skills or knowledge. Home learning is an important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's social and academic development and progress. The educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time available; therefore, children benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Research tells us that school has only 20% of impact on pupils' progress, parents have 40% impact and socio-economic factors provide the other 40%. We acknowledge the important role of play and free-time in a child's growth and development; therefore, taking part in various out-of-school clubs and other organisations also play an important part in the lives of our children.

Aims and Objectives

Our aims and objectives at St Agatha's Catholic Primary School is to provide children with a lifelong positive attitude to learning, with a strong partnership between school and home being at the heart of successful education. The provision of home learning activities by the school will:

- enable children to develop as learners
- promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- consolidate and reinforce learning in school and allow children to practise skills taught in lessons
- allow all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth
- allow all children to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- help parents and carers to gain an insight into their children's learning at school
- help all children to take a more active role in their own learning
- help children to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to learn independently and prepare them for the requirements of secondary education
- enable all children to develop good work habits for the future

Being aware of **how** we learn is important in teaching children how to become lifelong learners. At St Agatha's Catholic Primary School, we teach and promote the following learning behaviours:

- being **resilient**
- being a **risk taker**
- being **reflective**
- being **resourceful**
- considering **relationships**
- being **respectful**

A breakdown of each of the learning behaviours can be found on the school website: [St Agatha's Catholic Primary School - Learning to Learn \(stagathas.school\)](http://stagathas.school)

Home Learning Tasks

Home Learning is set by sharing the tasks with the children and/or information given on Microsoft Teams. Knowledge organisers and additional support is uploaded on to Microsoft Teams. Each child, from Reception – Year 6, is given a Microsoft Teams username and password in order for them or the parent/carer to access the learning tasks. Usernames and passwords are given for other websites where tasks are set (Collins, Mathletics, maths.co.uk and spag.com); these are given to specific year groups or children.

EARLY YEARS and FOUNDATION STAGE	
NURSERY	RECEPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nursery News emailed weekly ▪ Reading together ▪ Home Learning challenge (optional) set weekly in Nursery News ▪ Holiday news to be added to learning journeys after the Christmas and Easter holidays ▪ Home Learning tasks set when appropriate ▪ Story Sacks sent home when appropriate ▪ Parents to share 'wow' moments about home successes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reception News emailed weekly ▪ Reading together ▪ Collins Ebooks set when appropriate ▪ Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic (optional) ▪ Phonics, vocabulary and handwriting sheets set on Teams when appropriate ▪ Mathletics tasks set when appropriate

KEY STAGE ONE	
YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Year One News emailed weekly ▪ Reading together ▪ Collins Ebooks set weekly ▪ Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic (optional) ▪ Handwriting sheets set on Teams when appropriate ▪ Mathletics tasks set when appropriate ▪ Maths tasks set when appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reading together ▪ Collins Ebooks set weekly ▪ Maths tasks set weekly ▪ Handwriting practice set weekly ▪ Spellings set fortnightly ▪ Reading Comprehension set fortnightly ▪ Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic (optional) ▪ Mathletics tasks set when appropriate

KEY STAGE TWO	
<p>YEAR THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reading for pleasure daily ▪ Spelling rule and common exception words set in preparation for a weekly test ▪ Maths tasks (including multiplication and division facts) set in preparation for a weekly test ▪ CGP Maths Home Learning tasks set fortnightly ▪ CGP Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tasks set fortnightly ▪ CGP Comprehension tasks set fortnightly ▪ Mathletics tasks set fortnightly (optional) ▪ Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic 	
<p>YEAR FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reading for pleasure daily ▪ Spelling rule and common exception words set in preparation for a weekly test ▪ Maths tasks (including multiplication and division facts) set in preparation for a weekly test ▪ CGP Maths Home Learning tasks set fortnightly ▪ CGP Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tasks set fortnightly ▪ CGP Comprehension tasks set fortnightly ▪ Maths.co.uk tasks set fortnightly (optional) ▪ Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic 	

YEAR FIVE

- Reading for pleasure daily
- Spelling rule and common exception words set in preparation for a weekly test
- CGP Maths Home Learning tasks set weekly
- CGP Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tasks set fortnightly
- CGP Comprehension tasks set fortnightly
- Maths.co.uk tasks set when appropriate (optional)
- Spag.com tasks set when appropriate (optional)
- Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic

YEAR SIX

- Reading for pleasure daily
- Spelling rule and common exception words set in preparation for a weekly test
- CGP Maths Home Learning tasks set weekly
- CGP Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tasks set fortnightly
- CGP Comprehension tasks set fortnightly
- Maths.co.uk tasks set when appropriate (optional)
- Spag.com tasks set when appropriate (optional)
- Home Learning tasks set at the beginning of each new topic

NB: In Year 6, there may be times when the children are given additional home learning, if necessary, such as revision activities to prepare children for their Key Stage 2 tests and to prepare them for the transition into secondary school. This additional learning will be targeted for both the subject and the children.

Equal Opportunities

As children have different learning needs, there may be times where children receive different home learning tasks from their peers in order to support them in a specific area, e.g. handwriting, revision of spelling rules, revision of numbers bonds, practise catching and throwing, etc.

The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and home learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents/carers to encourage and support their children with home learning. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary and to provide them with an environment that allows children to do their best. Parents/carers can support their child by providing a good learning space at home and by discussing the learning that their child is completing.

When a home learning activity has been completed, we ask parents to talk through and correct their child's home learning, as one-on-one dialogue about learning and instant feedback is important. The answers for the CGP Home Learning books can be found at the back of each book. At this point, any misconceptions can be clarified. When the home learning is returned to school, staff will value it and check for any further misconceptions. It will not be formally marked by the teacher.

If parents/carers have any questions about home learning, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If parent/carers still have further questions regarding the home learning, then they are to arrange a meeting with an assistant headteacher.

At St Agatha's Catholic Primary School, we believe that opportunities linked to their home learning or in addition to their home learning, encourages the children have be lifelong learners. The following are *some* examples of the way children can learn:

- everyday talk – which supports effective writers
- discussion and reflection on experiences
- learning Nursery Rhymes and traditional tales
- being actively involved in family routines, such as setting the table etc
- noticing how there is maths all around: counting objects; reading numbers on signs; looking for shapes and patterns in the natural world; making comparisons in size and number etc
- telling the time and knowing the time of various daily routines
- spell all names, including surname, correctly
- remembering important information, such as family birthdays, home address and phone numbers
- playing games/board games
- listening to your child read, reading with your child and reading to your child
- designing and creating activities
- explaining how things work
- learning to ride a bicycle
- going swimming together
- playing family sports
- learning to tie their shoelaces
- visiting museums, parks, etc
- practising musical instruments
- watching documentaries and family entertainment together
- going to Mass

The Use of ICT

The school recognises the usefulness of educational software programs and, to support the children's learning, subscribes to Mathletics for Years 1–3, maths.co.uk for Years 4-6 and spag.com for Years 5-6. Specific tasks, which are optional, are set by the teacher. There are many websites containing highly educational material which can support children's learning. Parents/carers are advised to always supervise their child's access to the Internet. The school uses the Microsoft Teams platform to provide children with information and tasks to support them to be lifelong learners.