



# ST PETER'S

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

## Homework policy

Updated on 22 November 2017  
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Approved by Head: *Charlotte P. Jones*

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# Homework policy

## **Ethos of homework at St Peter's**

We understand that learning does not take place solely at school and therefore homework is an opportunity for our pupils to share their learning experiences with their parents, as well as developing a good routine to meet later educational/work needs.

Homework enables the children to take pride in their work, develop good work habits and allows us to assess just how much children have understood and retained.

Our approach to homework is based upon a positive partnership between home and school.

## **Definition of homework at St Peter's Preparatory School**

### **Homework may be:-**

- Some reinforcement of learning from a lesson
- Practice and consolidation of key skills
- 'Daily Essentials' of spelling, reading, times tables, music practice.
- Independent learning and an expansion of knowledge
- Research to expand curiosity and finding skills
- An extended research project to explained presentation skills
- A short study assignment - curiosity, finding, and presenting skills.
- Preparation for an upcoming lesson / test / assessment / exam - revision

### **Homework Time Allocation**

Children should be able to complete homework in the time allotted - the onus is upon the Staff to set preps of a sensible duration for all abilities; simply finishing off class work will not be enough for more able pupils. The onus is also on the pupil to find uninterrupted slots when homework can be completed within the time guidelines.

Unsatisfactory work is followed up by explanation or repetition.

In the Upper and Lower school this could be done during the Friday 'Get Ahead Club'.

While extra effort should be recognised, excessive time spent on homework is counterproductive and should not be encouraged.

Should it not be possible for a child to complete their prep due to unforeseen exceptional circumstances, a note to the tutor should be sent in from home and vice versa.

Pupils who are learning musical instruments should also factor in time during the week to practise. Three sessions of 15 minutes would be a suggested starting point. However, as they progress their Music teacher will be able to guide them further.

### **Homework completed at School**

Where a child is completing prep in school, there are set times during the day for this to occur.

Years 1-8 have prep slots between 16:15 and 17:00, daily. This is held in a classroom with a member

of staff on duty to support where needed. Once this prep slot has finished, pupils then go to a Late Stayers' Session between 17:00 and 18:00 - again Homework may be completed in this session (especially if the pupil has attended an activity based session during the 16:15-17:00).

### Pupils who have completed prep

For those pupils who have completed prep or prep has not been set, we have website passwords for them to use. This should be focused and not 'free time' on the chromebooks, ipads/laptops.

Listed is a small selection on offer:

- Linguascope (MFL)
- Abacus Maths
- My Maths
- Scratch programming
- Top Marks
- BBC schools

**Standard Homework Years N-4** (Expectations for children's homework depend on the age of the child, details follow.)

Year Group	Spelling	Reading	Other
<b>Nursery</b>	N/A	Picture book home daily to be shared. Reading Scheme book as well as a picture book when appropriate. Reading Journey work introduced when appropriate.	N/A
<b>Reception</b>	N/A	Reading Scheme book home daily to be shared. Reading Journey work. <b>As texts become more complex, pupils are not expected to finish books on a daily basis.</b>	1 x week (20 mins after Michaelmas half-term)
<b>Year One</b>	Practise spelling lists every night	Reading Scheme book home daily to be shared. Daily Reading Journey work. <b>As texts become more complex, pupils are not expected to finish books on a daily basis</b>	2 x week (20 mins)  Could be based on any other subject area.

<b>Year Two</b>	Practise spelling lists every night	Reading Scheme book home daily to be shared. Daily Reading Journey work. <b>As texts become more complex, pupils are not expected to finish books on a daily basis</b>	2 x week (20 mins)  Could be based on any other subject area.
<b>Years Three and Four</b>	Practise spelling lists every night	Reading Scheme book home daily. Reading Journey work (as ability appropriate). <b>As texts become more complex, pupils are not expected to finish books on a daily basis.</b>	4 x week (20 mins)  Each evening has a set subject.  E.g. Monday = Maths  Tuesday = English  Wednesday = Humanities  Thursday = Art

**The daily list pupils get to know is:**

Practise spelling lists every night

Reading Scheme book home daily to be shared

Reading Journey work (as appropriate)

Recorder practice for Year 2 and 3 pupils - over the week this should equate to 20 minutes' practice

Own individual Music practice - as guided by peripatetic staff

**Standard Homework Years 5-8**

<b>Year group</b>	<b>1 x week</b>	<b>Time allocation minutes</b>	<b>Weekly prep</b>	<b>Other</b>
Year 5	English	30	English Spellings French learning	Top Maths set 30 mins at the weekend
	Maths	20 - 25		
	Science	20 - 25		Read daily
	French	20 - 25		
	Humanities	20 - 25		
	RS	20 - 25		

Year 6	English	30	English Spellings	Read daily
	Maths	25 - 30		
	Science	25 - 30	French learning	
	French	25 - 30		
	Humanities	25 - 30		
	RS	25 - 30		
Year 7	English	30 - 45	English Spellings	
	Maths	30 - 45		
	Science	30 - 45	French learning	
	French	30 - 45		
	Humanities	30		
	R.S.	30		
	Spanish	30		
Year 8	English	40 - 60	English spellings	Spanish MFL set 1 X 30 mins each week
	Maths	40 - 60		
	Science	40 - 60	French learning	
	French	30 - 40		
	Humanities	40 - 60		
	R.S.	40		

In Years 5-8, there is a daily timetable of homework for different subjects.

### Homework requiring reference

Investigative homework or projects will be given a longer period of time to complete. All children should have an equal opportunity to complete the homework. All pupils have access to the school network of computers and printers. Should it not be possible to complete computer-based homework at home then staff will ensure provision is in place in school.

This style of project work supports the ST PETER'S SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE® skills of curiosity, finding and presenting.

<b>Date last updated</b>	<b>November 2017</b>
<b>Staff Responsible for this item</b>	<b>Academic Team / Lucy Ball</b>
<b>Staff aware</b>	<b>Policy re-issued to all staff January 2018</b>