**St Day and Carharrack Community School**



Homework

Policy

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chair of Governors \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date for review \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**St Day and Carharrack Community School**

**Homework – DfE’s perspective**

Since 2012, primary schools have been empowered by the DfE to create their own homework policy that includes no statutory expectations. Consequently, the homework policy below aims to reflect the values and ethos of St Day and Carharrack School.

**Why do we set homework?**

Both teaching staff and governors believe that some learning needs to happen outside of school hours in order to support the teaching and learning that happens during the school day. Accordingly, homework is set for the following reasons:

1. To support children in pre-learning topic related knowledge (learning intentions about how the homework links to topic learning are on the homework sheet).
2. To consolidate class learning
3. To encourage wider thinking about a particular topic
4. To foster a love of learning
5. To encourage and develop the skills of independence and organisation
6. To prepare children for the next phase in their education
7. As a tool to communicate to families what learning is occurring during the half term
8. As a tool to promote children working in partnership with their families

**St Day and Carharrack Take-away menu – the children’s perspective**

Following consultation with children about the homework set (February 2017), the majority said they liked the menu style of homework learning tasks as it gave them choice and ownership. The children felt that the time they already spend on these tasks is adequate – teaching staff agree also. As a majority, all age groups get most enjoyment from the art and design tasks. Consequently, teachers will endeavour to include this sort of task into every half-term menu.

**Expectations**

There is no specified time recommended by staff at St Day and Carharrack School for children to be working on the half-termly takeaway homework based tasks; we believe that homework should not be onerous or be the cause of stress within family life. Children may spend as much time as they feel is appropriate to have successfully completed the takeaway tasks to their ability. During consultation with families (February 2017), some said they preferred a weekly style task, in this instance, we recommend breaking the takeaway menu tasks down to complete one a week.

There is no expectation as to the level of support children should receive to complete the takeaway homework tasks; we recognise family life is busy therefore children should be encouraged to work with independence. However, we also know that completing homework with an older sibling or adult family member can be an enjoyable experience for the individual.

School most values and appreciates family support in children undertaking the daily and weekly learning at home of regular reading which is recorded in the child’s reading record, and the learning of spellings and number facts.

**Expectations continued.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Weekly Expectation** | **Half-Termly Expectation** |
| R | * Reading nightly
* Learning words (when given)
 |  |
| 1 | * Reading nightly
* Learning spellings
* Times tables and number bonds

practice | 4 completed tasks from the menu – of the child’s choice. At least 2 of the tasks will be mathematically based (in response to family feedback) |
| 2 |
| 3 |
| 4 |
| 5 |
| 6 | Literacy or Numeracy based tasksto complete in preparation for secondary school expectations. |

Occasionally a teacher may send additional tasks home to children on an individual basis to support with a specific learning need. Teachers are always happy to do this at the family’s request also.

**Celebration and Feedback**

All children returning homework will have this acknowledged by the class teacher and shared with the other children. Each child will receive a small feedback slip that highlights the achievements to the child along with a number of reward stamps (between 1 and 5) Each classroom or key stage will display homework in order that the effort put into each piece is publicly recognised and celebrated.

Where it is felt outstanding dedication has been used to complete a task, children will have this celebrated in Friday’s celebration assembly.

**Resources and Equipment**

As much as possible, teachers will consider the resources or equipment needed to support children in successfully completing their homework by keeping it to a minimum. There is no expectation for families to spend money on resources unless they wish to do so. Class teachers are always happy to print photos of tasks completed at home; families can do this via email with the teacher.