



St. James' Blackburn
CE Primary School

Vision Statement

Guided by our Christian Values, we endeavour to inspire, cherish and serve our school community. We strive to be exceptional in all we do. We will nurture a love of all God's children. We seek to build respect for all faiths and beliefs.

'Serve one another in love' (Galatians 5.13)

Mission Statement

Together we value, inspire and develop each other within a happy, safe community based on Christian values and respect for other faiths.

'Show respect to everyone' (Peter 1 2.17)

LOVE

'Serve one another in love' (Galatians 5.13)

RESPECT

'Show respect to everyone' (Peter 1 2.17)

COURAGE

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'
(Joshua 1.9)

Home Learning Policy

Date Agreed by Governors: 31/03/2022

Governor Review Date: January 2028

School Vision

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School Mission Statement

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School Values

The school has 9 school values underpinned by 3 core Christian Values of:

Courage

'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' (Joshua 1.9)

Love

'Serve one another in love' (Galatians 5.13)

Respect

'Show respect to everyone' (Peter 1 2.17)

Home Learning Policy

Our Vision

At St James' Church of England Primary School, we strive for excellence in all that we do. Our curriculum is designed to provide every pupil with the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to succeed. High-quality teaching and learning is at the heart of our work, and home learning is used purposefully to support, extend and enrich pupils' learning.

This policy outlines our shared expectations for pupils, parents/carers and staff. It reflects our commitment to effective, manageable and inclusive home learning that supports pupil progress and wellbeing.

Purpose of Home Learning

Home learning is an important part of a balanced education. Research shows that purposeful home learning can support pupils' achievement when it is carefully planned, linked to classroom learning and appropriate to pupils' needs.

The purpose of home learning is to:

- Reinforce and practise key knowledge and skills taught in school.
- Support long-term memory through regular retrieval and practice.
- Develop independence, resilience and responsibility for learning.
- Encourage reading, curiosity and opportunities for pupils to apply their learning beyond the classroom.

- Provide opportunities for families to engage positively with their child's education.

We recognise that children's experiences outside school are also essential in developing confidence, creativity and wider knowledge. Home learning will therefore be balanced, meaningful and manageable.

Types of Home Learning

Home learning may include:

Reading

Reading regularly is a priority for all pupils. Children are expected to read at home daily where possible, with opportunities for discussion, questioning and sharing ideas with an adult. Reading develops vocabulary, fluency, comprehension and a lifelong love of learning.

Phonics and Spelling

Pupils will practise phonics, spelling patterns and key vocabulary regularly to support accuracy and confidence in writing.

Mathematics

Home learning will focus on developing fluency in essential mathematical knowledge, including number facts, times tables and calculation strategies. Regular practice helps pupils develop confidence and automaticity.

Wider Curriculum Learning

Creative and independent tasks may be provided to encourage research, problem-solving and applying knowledge across subjects such as science, history, geography and religious education.

Digital learning resources may also be used where they provide meaningful opportunities to practise and extend learning.

Expectations

Pupils will:

- Complete home learning tasks to the best of their ability.
- Take responsibility for bringing required resources to and from school.
- Ask for support if they do not understand a task.
- Read regularly and practise key skills consistently.

Parents and Carers will:

- Encourage and support regular reading and completion of home learning.
- Provide a suitable environment and resources where possible.
- Celebrate effort and progress.

- Communicate with school if there are difficulties completing tasks.

Parents are not expected to teach new concepts; home learning should reinforce learning already introduced in school.

Staff will:

- Set purposeful home learning that supports curriculum learning.
- Ensure tasks are appropriate, accessible and inclusive.
- Provide feedback and encouragement in line with the school's assessment approach.
- Consider pupil workload and ensure home learning has a positive impact on learning.

Organisation and Time Expectations

There are no set time expectations for home learning. Instead, we encourage pupils to develop consistent and purposeful learning habits through regular practice of key foundational skills. This includes activities such as reading regularly, practising spellings, times tables, recalling number bonds, developing handwriting fluency, and reinforcing essential knowledge and skills taught in school. The focus of home learning is on building confidence, independence and long-term retention rather than completing a set amount of work within a specific timeframe.

Inclusion and Equality

All pupils should have access to meaningful home learning opportunities. Tasks will be adapted where necessary to meet individual needs, including pupils with SEND, in consultation with families and the SENCO.

We recognise that some pupils may require additional support, adaptations or alternative approaches to enable them to access home learning successfully.

Absence

Home learning will not normally be provided for short-term illness. Where a pupil is absent for an extended period, staff will work with families to agree appropriate arrangements.

Monitoring and Review

The impact of home learning will be monitored through pupil work, feedback, discussions with pupils and parents, and evaluation of its contribution to learning.

The policy will be reviewed regularly by school leaders to ensure that home learning remains purposeful, manageable and aligned with current educational research and guidance.

Roles and Responsibilities

School leaders and governors will ensure that the policy is implemented effectively and reviewed regularly.

Staff, pupils and parents share responsibility for ensuring home learning supports pupils' progress, independence and enjoyment of learning.