

## **Bury Catholic Preparatory School**

### **Mission Statement**

*Each child in this school family is as important to us as they are to God.*

### **Aim**

*We aim to educate all our children in a secure and loving environment, working together to ensure that we provide the positive experiences of success that give confidence and motivation for future learning.*

## **Homework Policy**

### **Introduction**

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

### **Inclusion**

At Bury Catholic Preparatory School we recognise that all our children have the entitlement to be included in all aspects of school life. In order to ensure that our children are valued as individuals and able to benefit from the opportunities on offer,

we:-

- adapt activities to take account of learning styles;
- plan carefully to include a variety of teaching approaches and setting of additional targets;
- assess the language used;
- communicate with other members of staff and parents;
- develop cross-curricular links;
- allow time for reflection and role play and
- thoroughly evaluate and monitor.

### **Purpose**

Homework is an opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.

- Students benefit from completing homework regularly. Homework helps them develop organisational and time-management skills, self discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for learning.
- Communication between parents and the school is essential part of the parent/school relationship needed to provide children with the best opportunities. Communication can be maintained through a variety of means eg Diaries, Homework Books etc.

- Homework should be work covered previously in the classroom and students should be able to complete their homework on their own.

**Homework should:**

- be appropriate to the student's skill level
- be interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open ended
- be balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- be assessed by teachers and support provided where necessary.

**Guidelines**

**In Reception**, homework will:

- Mainly consist of daily reading with parents/carers. This may include book orientation and follow up discussions.
- Maximum Homework time allocation:  
10 minutes per day

**In Year 1**, homework will:

- Mainly consist of daily reading with parents/carers for 10 minutes a day.
- Children may be required to complete additional work to support their learning for 10 - 15 minutes a day.
- Maximum homework time allocation:  
15 minutes per day

**In Year 2**, homework will:

- Mainly consist of daily reading to, with and by parents/caregivers for 10 minutes a day. This may include book orientation and follow up discussions about the book or what has been read.
- Children may be required to complete unfinished or additional work to support their learning for 10- 15 minutes.
- Maximum homework time allocation:  
20 minutes per day

**In Year 3**, homework will:

- Include 10 minutes of daily independent reading.
- Mainly consist of practising classroom work and skills or gathering extra information or materials. Homework tasks may cover all subject areas

such as Religion, Literacy, Mathematics, Integrated Studies and Handwriting

- Maximum homework time allocation:  
30 minutes per day

**In Year 4**, homework will:

- Include 10 minutes of daily independent reading, completion/extension of class work, research and multiplication tables.
- Homework tasks may cover all subject areas such as Religion, Literacy, Mathematics, Integrated Studies and Handwriting.
- Maximum time allocation:  
30 - 35 minutes per day

**In Year 5**, homework will:

- Include 10 minutes of daily independent reading, may also include completion / extension of class work, research and mental computations.
- Include set homework tasks given out weekly which may cover all subject areas such as Religion, Literacy, Mathematics, Integrated Studies and Handwriting.
- Maximum time allocation: 30 - 35 minutes per day

**In Year 6**, homework will:

- Include 20-30 minutes of daily independent reading, may also include completion / extension of class work, research.
- Include homework tasks given out regularly which may cover all subject areas such as Religion, Literacy, Mathematics and Integrated Studies.
- Include research activities, family activities, open-ended / challenging activities, creative activities which may be required to be completed on a nightly, fortnightly or monthly basis.
- Maximum time allocation: 60 minutes per day

## **Expectations**

Parents and carers can help their children by:

- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework
- not doing their children's homework

- setting an example by reading themselves
- helping children to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources. It is better to encourage children to complete homework themselves
- helping children to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities
- checking whether homework for all students has been completed and signing children's tasks where appropriate.
- discussing homework in their first language, where English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to their previous experiences
- contacting the class teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework as soon as problems arise; this includes excessive amount of time to complete homework.

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