

St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Homework Policy 2025 – 2026



Learn to love; Love to learn

At St. Bernadette's Catholic School, you will find us caring, hardworking and co-operative. We follow the ways of Jesus using our talents and gifts to make our school special. We show respect to all and welcome you.

Rationale

At St. Bernadette's homework is given to all children. It aims to:

- bridge the gap between home and school, allowing parents direct involvement in their child's learning,
- encourage self discipline and personal organisation
- provide an opportunity for children to reinforce or extend the learning which has taken place in class.

The nature of homework

Homework will:

- Be set for clearly defined purposes, not for its own sake.
- Vary in its nature and will not always be of a formal pencil and paper style.
- May include extension of work begun in class, additional research, reading, learning of tables and spellings, or collecting of information.
- Be followed up in class and made clear to children that tasks are not optional.

Frequency of homework

The frequency and length of tasks will vary according to the age and needs of the child. Children and parents are notified of their homework timetable at the beginning of the school year. This is reinforced at the welcome meetings which are timetabled in September.

Supporting Your Child's Learning at Home.

Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting a child's education. Encouraging a love of learning and developing good homework behaviour habits helps children to build confidence, independence and a positive attitude towards learning. Homework is an important extension of what the children are learning in class and helps consolidate key knowledge and skills.

Below are the homework expectations for each year group/phase:

NURSERY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Take home book – each week children will take home a book to read and enjoy with parents/carers➤ Prayer bag – this will be sent home once a week with a different child to enjoy with parents/carers.
RECEPTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reading each night – the communication diary should be signed at least three times per week as a minimum expectation.➤ Word list booklet – new words will be added throughout the year➤ Maths Skills Practise – spend at least 10 minutes per week on Numbots to help build early maths skills and confidence. (Set Friday to Friday)➤ Prayer bag – this will be sent home once a week with a different child to enjoy with parents/carers.➤ Spelling words to learn – this will occur during the Summer Term only.
YEAR 1 & YEAR 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reading each night – The expectation is that children will be heard to read by an adult at home each night. The communication diary should be signed at least three times per week as a minimum expectation.➤ Spelling Practise – children should complete at least 10 Spelling Shed activities each week to reinforce their spelling skills. Spellings are set on a Friday and tested the following Friday.➤ Maths Skills Practise – children should spend at least 20 minutes per week on Numbots or Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) to help develop their number knowledge and fluency. (Set Friday to Friday)➤ Prayer bag – this will be sent home once a week with a different child to enjoy with parents/carers.
YEAR 3 & YEAR 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reading each night – The expectation is that children will be heard to read by an adult at home each night. The communication diary should be signed at least three times per week as a minimum expectation.➤ Spelling Practise – children should complete at least 10 Spelling Shed activities each week to reinforce their spelling skills. Spellings are set on a Friday and tested the following Friday.➤ Times Tables Practise – children should spend at least 20 minutes per week on Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) to help improve their times table knowledge and speed. (Set Friday to Friday)➤ Prayer bag – this will be sent home once a week with a different child to enjoy with parents/carers.

YEAR 5 & YEAR 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reading each night – The expectation is that children will read their school library book at home each night. The communication diary should be signed at least three times per week as a minimum expectation. ➤ Spelling Practise – children should complete at least 10 Spelling Shed activities each week to reinforce spelling patterns. Spellings are set on Monday and tested on Friday. ➤ Times Tables Practise – children should spend at least 20 minutes per week on Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) to build speed and accuracy. (Set Friday to Friday) ➤ Weekly Comprehension Task – children will complete a comprehension exercise designed to support reading skills and understanding. (Set on a Thursday to be returned the following Thursday) ➤ Weekly Maths Task – children will complete a maths task set to reinforce key concepts covered in class. (Set on a Thursday to be returned the following Thursday) ➤ Prayer bag – this will be sent home once a week with a different child to enjoy with parents/carers.
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Our homework policy is designed to encourage children to take responsibility, establish good routines, and strengthen the partnership between home and school.

Children should be encouraged to develop a regular routine for completing their homework. All homework should be signed and dated by parents/carers. In Key Stage 2, children will be encouraged to use a homework diary to aid their personal organisation

Class teachers will share homework expectations with parents/carers at the welcome meetings held at the start of each academic year. Parents/carers will be notified of the timetable and expectations so they can support their child at home.

Monitoring Homework

If homework is not completed, the class teacher will log this and remind the child during class time. Teachers will keep a record of incomplete or late homework. Parents/carers will be informed by **text message** if homework has not been completed.

Rewards and Consequences

Children who complete all their homework will receive **10 minutes of Golden Time** as a reward. Missed or late homework will be followed up with reminders and communication with parents, so that the child can get back on track.

This policy aims to promote a consistent and supportive approach to homework across the school. By working together, teachers, parents/carers, and children can ensure that homework is a positive experience that reinforces learning, build independence, and helps every child achieve their best.

Policy Reviewed: September 2025

Date:

Dear Parent:

Re: Homework.

At St. Bernadette's we set homework as we believe it:

- bridges the gap between home and school, allowing parents direct involvement in their child's learning,
- encourages self discipline and personal organisation
- provides an opportunity for children to reinforce or extend the learning which has taken place in class.

Your child has not completed homework this term on _____ occasions. Please refer to your child's communication diary where the missed homework pieces have been indicated.

This situation will continue to be monitored. It is vitally important that all homework is completed and handed in on time.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Finnegan
Headteacher

Child's name: _____

Child's class: _____

I have received a letter regarding my child's homework.

Signed: _____