

St Gerard's Primary Homework Guidelines



Primary 4 - 7



Dear Parents,

We would like to provide some guidelines for homework throughout all stages in our school.

We hope you will find this useful. It will let you know what our expectations are and how we can work together to fulfil your **child's** homework activities.

Here are our set guidelines for homework...

- Homework will consist of tasks from three areas – language, maths and a task from one other subject area e.g. R.E, topic work, science
- All tasks will be given out on a Monday
- Please aim for homework to be submitted on the Friday, especially the Language and Maths work. However if more time is needed due to clubs, family commitments, etc. you may submit the homework on Monday providing the weekend for extra time
- Extra homework tasks, e.g. school projects will have a clear submission date and there will be no third task during this time
- If there is a week when no homework is due this will be clearly stated in the homework diary
- There will be no homework during the first and last week of each new term

When we have whole school activities such as Rights Respecting School tasks or Health Week this will be the third task of the week.

Please know we are always available to provide support or answer **any questions**. **Do not hesitate to write a note in your child's** homework diary or phone the school to arrange an appointment.

Thank you.

Here are some tips for **Language**...

- Within reading, aim to use the word attack strategies e.g. look at the first letter, look at the last letter, sound it out, re-read the word, use your knowledge of phonemes etc
- When writing, ensure writing is the correct size, there are spaces between words, capital letters, full stops are present and correct punctuation has been used
- Aim to have a variation in sentence structure and use of joining words e.g. and, but, then, because, so
- Always ask your child to read over their work on completion and self correct before considering home learning tasks are complete

Here are some tips for **Maths**...

- If required, use the homework diary for help with the times table
- *Reinforce the four operations (\div \times $-$ $+$) whenever possible*
- When writing sums ensure all digits are in the correct place – Th, H, T, U
- When using squared paper always look for one digit in each box
- Use a ruler for all tasks
- Always ask your child to check over their work on completion and self correct

Some possible questions...

Q - What happens if my child cannot complete homework on time?

Please do not worry about this, simply write a short note in your **child's diary** and the class teacher will know they need some extra time.

Q – What happens if my child finds the tasks too tricky?

Please write a note in your child's diary and the class teacher will provide advice and discuss this task with your child.

Q – Can my child get homework tasks when on holiday?

When asked, we will provide homework tasks if your child is sick or is granted an authorised holiday. Homework tasks are not provided for unauthorised holidays.

Q – What happens if my child does not hand in homework consistently?

The class teacher will **record in your child's home** learning diary if no homework is handed in. If this continues a letter will be sent home in order for us to work together to support this.

Q – How do I know the teacher is looking at my child's homework diary?

The class teacher will initial at the end of each week to show they **have seen your child's diary. They will respond to any comments** or questions you may have as quickly as possible.

Q – If I have any questions what should I do?

Please write a note in your **child's diary otherwise** please call the school office to arrange a meeting with the class teacher.

If you write a message in the diary for the teacher, please remind your child to inform their teacher of this.