



The Governing Body is committed to ensuring consistency of treatment and fairness in the operation of this policy. In addition, the Governing Body values diversity and is committed to ensuring that no individuals are discriminated against on any grounds, including the protected characteristics included in the Equality Act 2010.

Home-learning refers to any task which pupils are asked to do, by their teachers, outside of lesson time.

St Michael's aims to:

- Develop an effective partnership between the school and parents
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding including promoting positive attitudes to home learning
- Exploit resources for learning of all kinds at home and elsewhere
- Extend school learning e.g. through additional reading and practice of key skills
- Prepare pupils well for work to come
- Encourage pupils, to become confident and independent in their learning which will help them through their time at school and into adult life
- Consolidate basic skills and knowledge and / or deepen understanding through the setting of appropriate home learning tasks.

The Organisation of Home Learning

Home-learning is set regularly and will vary according to the age/ needs of the pupil. The policy has been designed to allow flexibility. It takes into account family situations and other musical, sporting, artistic and club activities in which children are involved.

Parents are notified at the beginning of each term how the home-learning will be organised, e.g. termly pack, activities set on specific days, return day for completed home-learning tasks.

Pupils are expected to read regularly at home and as a school we expect parents and carers to spend time reading *to and with* their children in addition to the time spent on home-learning.

The Organisation of Home Learning

- Pupils are expected to complete their home-learning and a home learning book will be provided. A reasonable time limit will be set for tasks to be completed.
- Home-learning will be planned as part of the overall planning for the class (short term and medium term)
- Home-learning may be differentiated, taking into account the range of pupil capabilities, in order to provide an equal and appropriate challenge for individuals
- Generally, home-learning will not include finishing off uncompleted tasks
- Home-learning will be clearly explained to the children or a written explanation for parents will accompany the home-learning
- If a child is going to be set extra home-learning to help with an area of difficulty or strength, parents must be consulted and willing to support this. Parents who request extra home-learning for their child will be given advice and / or extra home-learning at the discretion of the teacher
- When the learning platform / computer is used for home learning tasks paper options will also be available for those without access. Lunchtime club is also provided for children without Internet access at home.
- Feedback will be verbal or written depending on the home learning task. Class marking will take place wherever possible.

Suggested activities for home-learning

Reception:

Reading at home with parents / adult support
Learning key words for reading
Practicing words for class worship / special occasions
Bringing in items for topic work

Key Stage 1

Reading at home with parent / adult support
Learning number bonds / tables
Spellings
Bringing in items for topic work
Working on special projects
Practicing words for class worship / special occasions

Key Stage 2

Reading – daily
Multiplication tables
Spellings – weekly
Researching own projects to support school work
Practicing words for class worship / special occasions
Maths activities
English activities

Parents as partners

- Parents are partners with school in the child's learning experiences. Parents are encouraged to let the child's teacher know if home-learning has not been completed for any reason, or if home-learning is too difficult or too easy.
- Guidance will be given to parents as to how best to help their children with their home-learning, in the form of instructions on the home-learning sheet or home-learning book. Parents are encouraged to take an interest in their children's home-learning and learning in general, to discuss it with them and to give them help when necessary, but not to do it for them.
- Parents will be provided with examples of core skills for Reading, Writing and Mathematics relevant to their child's year group. These will also be available on the school website
- Home-learning should be enjoyable! Sometimes, however, children should be encouraged to reflect on the benefits of sustained learning. Parents should praise children for good effort. Parents are encouraged to let the teacher know if their child has tried particularly hard on a piece of home-learning or if a child is experiencing problems.
- It is *not* the teacher's responsibility to provide home-learning for children who are taken out of school to go on holiday during term time. Neither is it their responsibility to provide activities for private tutors.

Home-learning will not be set as a 'catch up' for periods of absence due to ill health. However, under certain circumstances this may be negotiated with the class teacher.

Safeguarding

All safeguarding procedures will be carried out in line with agreed school Safeguarding Policy. Any concerns will be reported to the Headteacher, or Deputy when Headteacher is unavailable, immediately and then followed up in writing as soon as possible.

ICT, including websites, will regularly be used within the curriculum; guidelines from the school's Online Safety Policy, including internet access will be referred to and followed.

Monitoring the effectiveness of the policy

This policy will be monitored by Senior Leaders on a regular basis. Parental and pupil feedback will be sought at intervals through discussion and questionnaires.