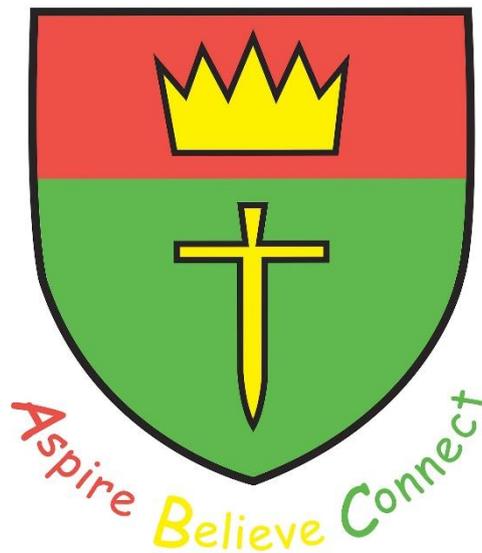


St Oswald's CE VA Primary School



Homework Policy

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Homework Policy:

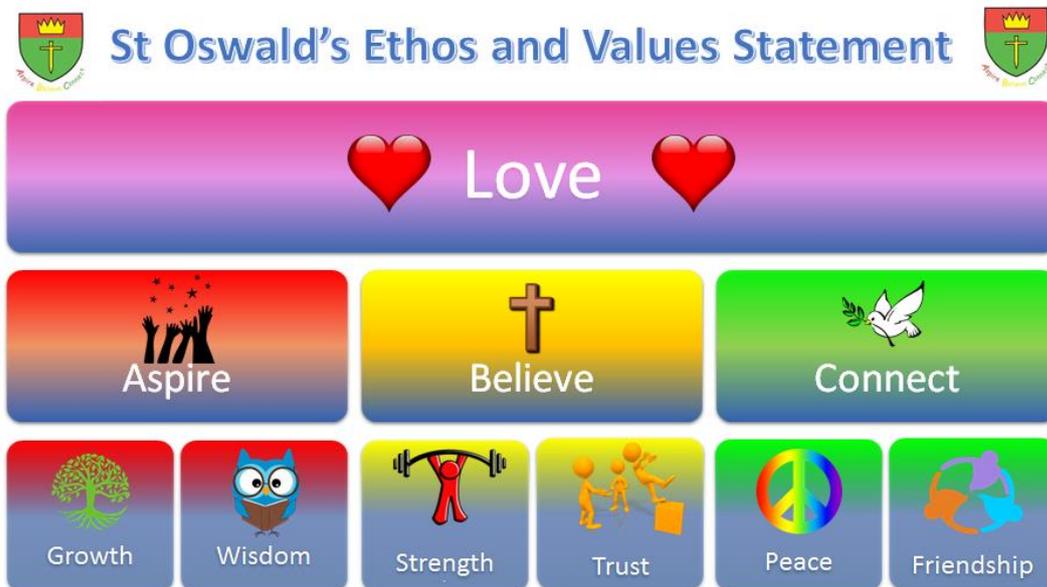
Principles and Implementation

Agreed by governors: January 2020

Implementation date: February 2020

Review date: February 2022

Ethos and Values Statement



Background

Our Ethos and Values Statement is an easy to understand model of religious education in St Oswald's. Children in our school know that love is the most important value of all, in line with the new command that Jesus gave us to love one another, which is why this is placed above all in our statement.

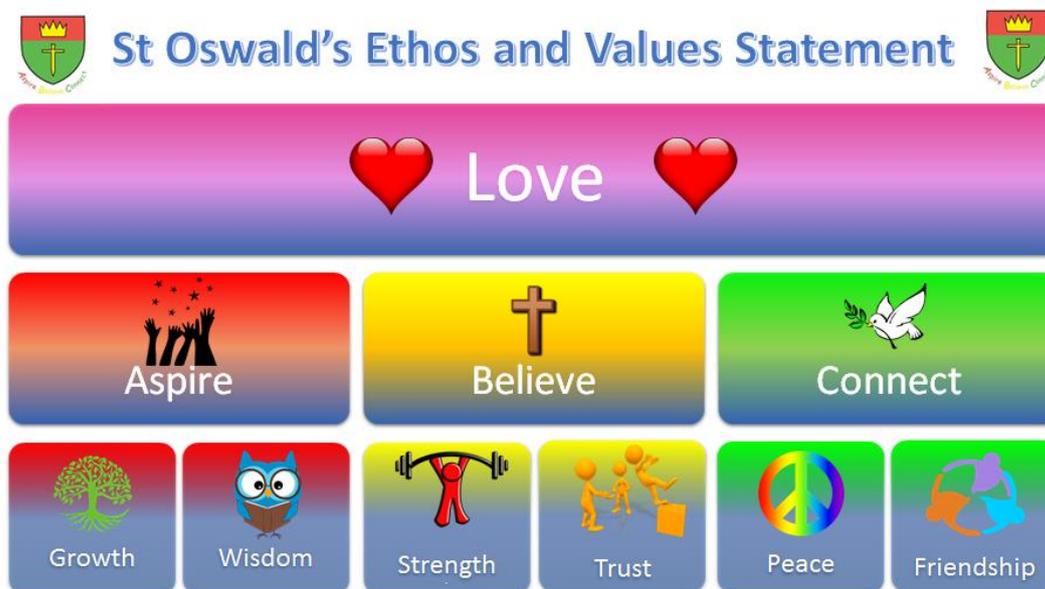
Mission Statement

Sitting below love lies our school's mission statement: *Aspire, Believe, Connect*. As easy as A, B, C, this statement is easy to remember and most importantly represents what we want our children to do in every aspect of their education and lives.

Core Christian Values

The mission statement is underpinned by six core Christian values that each link to one aspect of *Aspire, Believe, Connect*. As children aspire to be the best they can be in every way, they will grow in wisdom. In order to believe in themselves and develop their own beliefs about the world around them, our children are taught about the importance of trust and strength on their journey. We also believe in the values of peace and friendship in helping us to connect with those around us.

Homework and our Ethos



At St Oswald's, we promote an enriched, balanced and broad curriculum through our core and foundation topics. We encourage all children to learn in a safe and happy environment. As a school we aim to involve parents with their children's learning and with the New National Curriculum 2014. As a school we encourage parents and carers to take an active role in their children's homework and stimulate parents and carers to work alongside their children. As a whole we aim to give all children the same opportunities to develop their learning.

At St Oswald's our schemes of work reflect the content and challenge of the curriculum. Teachers have received training in key areas of curriculum change and are ready to provide outstanding curriculum provision. The curriculum is taught

with the consideration of the needs of all learners. Our curriculum is be exciting and will inspire children to nurture a passion for learning.

Aims

- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- Ensure progression towards independence and meeting age related objectives
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Extend and support learning
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Ensure our children by the end of Year Six are secondary ready.

Non-negotiables

- The table below gives a summary of homework for children. All work will be marked using the school Marking Policy and feedback will be given either verbally or through a written response.

Year Group	English	Maths	Other
Rec	Weekly Phonics Reading	Number Formation and Counting	Talk Homework
1	Weekly Phonics (tricky word spellings) Reading	Times Tables and Counting	Talk Homework
2	Spellings Reading	Times Tables	Talk Homework
3	Spellings Reading	Times Tables/ Arithmetic	Talk Homework
4	Spellings Reading	Times Tables/ Arithmetic	Talk Homework

5	Spellings Reading	Times Tables/ Arithmetic	Talk Homework
6	Spelling Reading SAT practice questions	Times Tables/ Arithmetic	Talk Homework

For children to make the most progress reading, spelling and multiplication/division facts need to be practised nightly. All homework will be distributed on a Friday and children will hand this back in on a Wednesday.

Reading

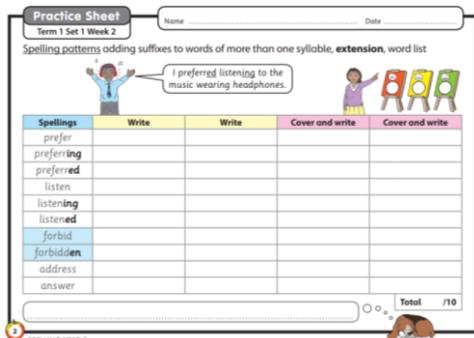
Reading must be carried out a minimum of three times per week and the reading diary MUST be signed by a parent or the reading task will be deemed as one missed homework. Children must read their school reading book once during the week but the other two reading sessions can be for the child's enjoyment and therefore they can choose a book, comic, newspaper article, website, leaflet etc. of their choice. We would not expect considerable amounts to be written just a simple comment as to how the child has read or a signature will suffice if the parent/carer does not wish to make a comment. Key Stage Two Children can write the comment themselves (again encouraging independence) however this still must be signed by a parent/carer. Reading Records are to be returned to school each day however reading will be checked off on a Friday by a member of staff in line with the school's reading non-negotiables.

Spellings

Spellings will be given out on a weekly basis and differentiated with regards to each child's ability. There will be a minimum of ten spellings and a maximum of 20 as the children progress through the school. The children will be tested on their spellings each week. Evidence of this homework being completed will go towards their weekly monitoring. A signature from the parent/carer will indicate that this has been completed.

From Year 1-6, each year group follow the HeadStart Primary Spelling. As part of their weekly spellings children will receive a practice sheet in which they will have the opportunity to practice writing their spellings four times. In addition to this, children from Year 2 - 6 will receive an activity sheet. This will allow children the opportunity to complete tasks associated with termly spellings. These tasks will range from; applying words into sentences, looking at spelling

rules, applying the correct word into sentences and matching words to the correct dictionary definition.



Phonics

Reception and Year One children will not receive spellings at first however, may as they progress through the year. The children will initially receive a phonics activity based upon the sounds they have been learning. Phonics is really important to perfect in the early stages of primary school as it is the building blocks to reading, writing and spelling.

Times Tables and Arithmetic

From Year 3 upwards children will receive maths homework on a weekly basis. Times tables sheets, including speedy tables, can be used as a task, but equally, class teachers may choose to distribute arithmetic sheets to provide children with consolidation opportunities for formal written methods.

In Key Stage 1 children will receive arithmetic homework to consolidate opportunities provided in class. Activities will support the build of times tables.

Homework Reward System

Teachers will reward excellence and effort in homework by implementing our homework rewards system 'Homeworkopoly'. Homeworkopoly is a fun way to give our children extra incentives to do their homework. In order for a child to play the game, he or she must complete each element (outlined above within non-negotiables) of their homework by the Friday of each week. Once a child has done this, they are allowed to roll a dice and move around the game board.

Throughout the year, day by day we will keep the game going. Alike monopoly, as the children move around the board they will land on a range of special spaces which includes sticker spots, chance cards, brain benders and mystery prizes!

Children who hand in all homework in a term will be awarded a place on the end of term surprise trip!

Difficulties with Homework

Children should be encouraged to discuss any problems they are having with their teacher. It is not acceptable for children to struggle excessively, causing upset at home. Obtaining parental support is of paramount importance. Hence why we give the children five nights (plus a weekend) to complete their homework so they have ample time to seek adult support at school if needed. Any feedback you could give regarding homework would be greatly appreciated.

A Homework Club will be provided on a Monday lunchtime if needed for children who wish to do some of their homework at school and support will be provided. Unfinished or missing work will need to be completed during lunchtimes. If a child does not complete their homework on more than three occasions a letter will be sent to parents regarding a meeting with the class teacher in the first instance and if this continues then with the Key Stage Leader. Please note any one aspect of the weekly homework (i.e. talk, reading, spellings, tables, phonics) being incomplete counts as one of the three occasions.

Homework will:

- Increase as children get older
- Be interesting and relevant to the class work
- Be predominately based on basic skills
- Be encouraged by a positive approach
- Encourage parents to support their children's work by providing where possible a quiet, undisturbed environment
- Be marked by the class teacher/team member if handed in on time
- Not necessarily be written work
- Consolidate and build upon any previous learning

Following these guidelines will help children to develop independence, realise their full potential and prepare them for the next stage in their education.

Although there is no legal requirement to have a Homework Policy, the guidelines have been drawn up in line with recommendations.

Role of Stakeholders in Policy

All stakeholders have a role to play in this policy. Parents are encouraged to support learning at home by encouraging children to show develop positive attitudes towards their homework.