

## **Backwell C of E Junior School**

*Confidence, responsibility and enthusiasm for life*

### **Homework Policy Statement**

This policy should be taken and used as part of Backwell Church of England School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our vision, instrument of government aims and values as a Church of England school.

#### **Rationale:**

Our school values parents/carers as co-educators and homework has a valuable role to play in the academic development of pupils. Current government guidelines recommend an average of one and a half hours for Years 3 and 4, and two and a half hours for Years 5 and 6 per week. The school recognises that parent/carer involvement and homework will vary depending upon the domestic arrangements of the family.

#### **Aims of homework are as follows:**

- 1 To improve children's learning.
- 2 To increase children's independence within the learning process.
- 3 To increase parent/carer involvement in their own children's learning.
- 4 To prepare children for the volume of independent study at home in their future education at secondary school and beyond.

#### **Methods:**

The term "homework" covers a wide variety of activities. These are done at home or outside the immediate school environment.

- 1 Reading alone and sharing a book with an adult for a short amount of time at least three times per week are crucial elements of homework. They provide children with the time to practise reading skills and develop good habits which cannot be covered within the limits of the school day. A reading record book will be provided for parents/carers to complete after hearing their child read.
- 2 Specific learning of spellings and mathematical facts assist other work done in school. These may be tested formally and will always have direct relevance to other work.
- 3 From time to time children will be asked to complete a task at home which was begun in school time. This may occur due to time constraint in school or occasionally because a child has not performed satisfactorily. The child will take responsibility for the completion of this task on time.
- 4 Children will sometimes be asked to collect objects or information from home which will support the learning in the classroom.
- 5 Children may be asked to research an aspect of topic work using the local library, books at home, ICT resources or by talking to adults in the home environment.
- 6 Teachers will set specific tasks to be completed at home. In general, children should be able to complete these without adult input. However monitoring and some assistance by parents/carers will help children to value the work they are undertaking.
- 7 In the autumn term teachers will issue parents/carers with general guidance for the completion of these tasks. Each year group will have its own system for ensuring parents/carers know what homework has been set.
- 8 Children with special educational needs may have an element of individual homework within their provision map.
- 9 All teachers will maintain a record of homework completed during the academic year.

**Conclusion:** Most children work very hard during the school day. They need to have leisure time when they can follow activities for personal enjoyment and have time to relax. However, children in the junior years also need to appreciate the value of doing some academic work at home in order to support the work done in school.

