

YSGOL WIRFODDOL EGLWYSIG Y MODEL MODEL CHURCH IN WALES SCHOOL

Mission Statement

The Model Church in Wales School's mission is to work within a Christian ethos to nurture and develop all that is best in our pupils providing them with a sure foundation for their future.



Homework Policy

Policy confirmed by the Governing body of Model Church in Wales School on:

Date:

Signed: (Chair of Governors)

..... (Headteacher).

[Reviewed: 10/10/17 Panel: Policy Review Committee]

"Jesus our 'Model',
Helps us to share
Learning and Kindness,
Friendship and care"

Homework Policy

1. Ethos of the School

1.1. The Model Church in Wales School is a Voluntary Aided School. Trusting in God we aim to:

- Ensure that each child realises his or her full potential
- Meet the needs of individual children in a caring Christian environment
- Develop mutually supportive links between home and school and Church and the wider community
- Develop confidence, independence, and self-esteem, together with respect for all people
- Provide high quality teaching and stimulating learning opportunities
- Establish high expectations of attitude, behaviour and achievement
- Prepare children for their responsibilities as good citizens and develop their awareness of their role in the wider community.

2. Introduction

2.1. Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

3. Rationale for homework

3.1. Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. The government made clear its commitment to homework in the 1997 White Paper, 'Excellence in Schools', where homework was seen as an essential part of good education'.

3.2. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents.

3.3. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

- 3.4. Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children.
- 3.5. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

4. Aims and objectives

4.1. The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- to promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- to provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- to consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

5. Types and amount of homework

5.1. We set a variety of homework activities. For example:

- Foundation Phase: All foundation phase children are encouraged to read regularly at home. We give guidance and support to help parents along with a home school reading record book to ensure close communication links.
- Following Seal assemblies a piece of work will be sent to do at home – this is on a half termly basis.
- Occasionally the children will be asked to complete an activity at home which is linked to their Topic. This is at the class teachers' discretion and plenty of time and notice will be given.
- During the Spring and Summer term in Year 2 more formal tasks will be set in preparation for KS2.

5.2. At Key Stage 2 we continue to give children the sort of homework activities outlined above, but we expect them to do more tasks independently. We set literacy and numeracy homework routinely each week and we expect the children to consolidate and reinforce learning done in school through practice at home. We also set homework as a means of helping the children to revise for tests as well as to ensure

that prior learning has been understood.

- 5.3. Marking of homework should be positive, interactive and personal to the child as often as possible.

6. Pupils with additional learning needs

- 6.1. We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has additional learning needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

7. The role of parents

- 7.1. Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly and by discussing the work that their child is doing.
- 7.2. If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the Headteacher.

8. Monitoring and review

- 8.1. It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. Our governing body may, at any time, request from our Headteacher a report on the way homework is organised in our school.