



St Michael's C of E VA Primary School

As a Church School we seek to ensure that the ethos and principles of Christianity underpin the experiences of the children in our care.

Our school vision is to provide a nurturing learning environment and a curriculum that develops character, teaches lifelong learning skills, fosters creativity and provides opportunities for exploration so that all pupils can experience

'Life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

Home Learning Policy

Last reviewed by Curriculum Committee: December 2025

Date for next review: December 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. J. ...".

Signed:.....

04.12.2025

Date.....

This policy takes into account views expressed by parents, pupils, teachers and governors including:

- **Parent questionnaires**
- **Pupil questionnaires**
- **Staff meetings**
- **Governors' Curriculum Committee**

Key Principles of home learning at St Michael's

- Home learning should reinforce prior learning. It provides an opportunity to revise recent learning in order to secure understanding and develop mastery eg the reading books sent home should provide opportunity for practice and shared enjoyment. The books should not be a struggle to read.
- The learning should be accessible for the child without the need for further explanation or teaching at home.
- Children should enjoy the experience of sharing new learning with their parents, but this learning should be something they are reasonably confident with.
- Home learning should not be stressful for the child or parent.
- Home learning should be relevant, interesting and appropriate in terms of time and content.
- Home learning should enhance learning in school and should not be seen as a 'bolt on'.
- A key part of home learning is spending time together as a family. Visits to the library, a family outing, walks, trips to the park are equally as important as formal home learning and should never be underestimated in terms of their educational value.
- Home learning should gradually increase in time from Reception to Year 6 in order to prepare children for the demands of secondary school.

Reading home learning

Reading is the most important part of a child's home learning from Reception through to Year 6.

Reading books and expectations

All children are expected to read the book they take home at least **4 times a week**, with each reading session lasting a minimum of 5 minutes.

Reception and Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assigned Little Wandle book • Shared reading book for adult to read with the child
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assigned Little Wandle book or the banded reading book • Shared reading book for adult to read with the child
Years 3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected banded book(s)
Years 5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selected banded book(s) or classroom library reading book

Children are encouraged to read any additional texts sourced from home if they would like to.

Children should bring their reading books and reading records into school every day.

Reading Records

Blue reading records are sent home to record home reading sessions. Adults at home should note down when they read with a child. This does not need to be a detailed comment. Adults can use the range of formats in the reading records, e.g. the 'tricky words' section at the bottom of each page to let the teacher know which words the child found difficult.

Reception to Year 3	An adult makes a written comment or acknowledgement of each reading session at home. e.g. "We read up to page 5 today!" or "Tommy was feeling tired, so I read 2 pages to him."
Years 4 - 6	We encourage the children to become more independent and document their own reading sessions in their reading record. However, we ask that adults help monitor this by acknowledging the children's comments with 1 weekly signature.

A member of staff from each class will check reading records at least once a week (days will vary for each class). Those that have read 4 times a week will be rewarded a sticker for their sticker chart.

If adults have any queries about reading at home, they can request a meeting with the class teacher.

Further information on home learning expectations for each year group

All pupils are encouraged to complete their homework with the same level of pride that they put into their work in school. Most home learning, other than Reception Class home learning, will be uploaded to Google Classroom to reduce the amount of paper that is used in school.

Reception

Reading	4 times/week
Phonics	The children will be taught a new set of sounds each week and these sounds will be placed in a 'green' sound book. Children should practise these at home and look for the sounds in their reading books and library books.
Writing	Children should practise their letter formation using the videos on 'Tapestry'
Maths	Teacher provides a range of ideas for optional learning activities for families to do together as part of day to day life
RE	One activity each half term on the current 'value'
Science	One activity per term

Year 1 and Year 2

Reading	4 times/week
Spelling	A selection of spellings will be given each week. Children are given a spelling activity, matched to a strategy used in class, to practise their spellings.
Maths	Mental fluency practice 3 times/week using the suggested activities (Yr 1: Number bonds, Yr 2: 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables)
RE	One activity each half term on the current 'value'
Science	One activity per term
Humanities	Two activities per term

Year 3 and Year 4

Reading	4 times/week
Spelling	A selection of spellings will be given each week. Children should practise these spellings three times/week, using the strategies they have been taught in class.
Maths	Mental fluency practice 3 times/week using suggested activities Yr 3: 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 multiplication tables Yr 4: all multiplication tables up to 12 x 12
RE	One activity each half term on the current 'value'
Science	One activity per term
Humanities	Two activities per term

Year 5

Reading	4 times/week
Spelling	A selection of spellings will be given each week. Children should practise these spellings three times/week, using the strategies they have been taught in class.
English	One grammar or comprehension task/week
Maths	Multiplication tables practice 3 times/week using suggested activities One maths task/week
RE	One activity each half term on the current 'value'
Science	One activity per term
Humanities	Two activities per term

Year 6

Reading	4 times/week
Spelling	A selection of spellings will be given each week. Children should practise these spellings three times/week, using the strategies they have been taught in class.
English	One grammar task / week One reading comprehension task/week
Maths	Multiplication tables practice 3 times/week using suggested activities One maths task/week
RE	One activity each half term on the current 'value'
Science	One activity per term
Humanities	Two activities per term

Year 6 pupils should bring their maths, grammar and/or reading comprehension books into school each day. They will be provided with a timetable outlining when weekly homework will be set and when it should be handed in.