

# XII Apostles RCPS

## Homework Policy



Mrs Marsden and Mrs Whitton

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1. **To place Christ at the centre of everything we do**
2. **To recognise that each child is unique and to ensure that each child is educated to fulfil their human potential**
3. **To develop an understanding of Community; being able to recognise, respect and celebrate the diversity of all within it.**

The second aim in our mission statement is that all children are unique and are, 'educated to fulfil their human potential.' At Twelve Apostles we seek out every opportunity for children to be able to achieve this. We feel that homework plays an important role in enabling children to reach their potential both academically and socially. Not only does it provide the children with an opportunity to extend their understanding of concepts being taught in school, it also enables them to interact with others sharing and discussing their understanding.

Homework is set digitally, predominantly through Class Dojo, Purple Mash or TT Rock Stars, by the class teacher on a weekly basis in Reading, Phonics or Spelling and Mathematics. This homework is personalised as far as possible to meet the needs of the children.

### **Topic Homework**

Periodically, homework is set that requires the children to develop their independent research skills. This is linked to current class topics thus inspiring the children's interest and enabling them to formalise their own enquiry questions. This will usually replace the regular weekly homework.

Topic work is also set over the Summer holidays to launch and inspire the children's interest.

### **The purpose of homework at Twelve Apostles Primary School is:**

- To encourage children to make the maximum progress in their academic development
- To develop an effective partnership between home and school in supporting the children's learning
- To consolidate and extend the children's learning through activities that reinforce and practice knowledge, skills and understanding learnt in school
- To develop self-discipline, confidence and the skills required to become an independent learner
- To celebrate children's achievement and develop self-esteem

Below is an example homework timetable

Year Group	Activity	Overall Time Spent per Week
Reception	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level Children receive a newsletter detailing what has been covered in class with suggested activities and ideas to further support learning at home.	45 minutes
Year 1	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level. <b>Phonics-</b> Activities to consolidate phonics group work. <b>Mathematics-</b> Activities to consolidate learning in maths topic.	1 Hour
Year 2	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level <b>Phonics-</b> Activities to consolidate phonics group work. <b>Mathematics-</b> Activities to consolidate learning in maths topic.	1 Hour
Year 3	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level <b>Spellings-</b> Activities to consolidate and practise key words and spelling rules <b>Mathematics-</b> TT Rock Stars practise to consolidate and secure times table knowledge	1 ½ Hours
Year 4	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level <b>Spellings-</b> Activities to consolidate and practise key words and spelling rules <b>Mathematics-</b> TT Rock Stars practise to consolidate and secure times table knowledge	1 ½ Hours
Year 5	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level <b>Spellings-</b> Activities to consolidate and practise key words and spelling rules <b>Mathematics-</b> TT Rock Stars practise to consolidate and secure times table knowledge	2 Hours
Year 6	<b>Reading-</b> The children are assigned a reading book at their own independent reading level <b>Spellings-</b> Activities to consolidate and practise key words and spelling rules <b>Mathematics-</b> TT Rock Stars practise to consolidate and secure times table knowledge	2 Hours

**Reading-** Reading is an essential life skill and permeates all curriculum areas. It is our aim that the children develop a lifelong love of reading. To enable this to happen, all teachers ensure that children have plenty of opportunities to read for pleasure including regular visits to the school's library, a reading corner in each classroom, daily independent reading and daily story time. Children can access the school's online library system at home, and can reserve and review books. In Year 2, story book bags are given to children to further encourage and develop their reading skills.

The current requirement for reading is about 10 minutes per day and is considered to be a vital part of the homework framework. Each child has a Reading Record book at both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 to monitor this activity. We encourage parents to sign their child's diary and make comments on their progress at home.

**Spelling** - Children will receive homework activities to practise and consolidate their learning. These activities give children opportunities to applying the spelling strategies and conventions taught. Alongside that, children will also be given key words to learn.

**Mathematics-** Maths homework is set on a weekly basis for the children to complete. In Key Stage 1, it is usually based on a concept that is taught during that week and gives the children the opportunity to consolidate and practise their new understanding. In Key Stage 2, weekly homework is given that focusses on children's understanding and application of times tables through TT Rock Stars app.

### **The Role of Parents**

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 homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home with internet access if possible, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by helping their child to establish a good homework routine. It is important that parents support school in encouraging children to complete homework and hand it in on time. Parents and school can work together to enable children to fulfil their academic potential and we believe homework is one way in which this can be achieved.

### **Homework Club**

In Key Stage 2, a weekly homework club runs during Friday dinner times for UKS2 and Monday dinner times for LKS2. These sessions are open to all children and give them the opportunity to complete their homework in a quiet environment with access to computers and the internet. In this way, Homework Club isn't considered to be a punishment. However, there are sometimes children who repeatedly forget to complete and hand in their homework. In these cases, the children are asked to attend Homework Club so that they can catch up and ensure their homework is completed in future.