



## Homework Policy 2024

*'Each person, uniquely made in God's image, merits the best that we can give'.*

We believe that learning and the love of learning is a lifelong process. Learning is not restricted to school hours only but it continues when a student leaves the school premises.

Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. This could include after school homework clubs.

We see the purpose of homework as being to:

- Develop a strong and effective partnership between school and home for a child's education
- Develops independent learning skills as well as confidence and self discipline
- Reinforces and support what has been taught in the classroom thereby helping students to make progress
- Helps prepare students for future expectations when they start secondary school

### **Aim of the policy**

The aim of this policy is to ensure a consistent approach throughout the school and that academic progression is evident. It will also develop academic independence and a sense of individual responsibility. The policy will ensure that parents/carers have a clear understanding regarding expectations for themselves and for their child. SMMS acknowledges that homework supports the class work students do in school and with parental support and guidance, for students to enjoy the learning experience.

The emphasis of homework activities is on the development of skills of literacy and numeracy. KS2 students will receive homework each week as well as a creative writing challenge every two weeks.

KS3 students will have weekly tasks of literacy and numeracy along with science and french. There will also be a half termly project

### **Staff support at SMMS**

Staff will provide a range of homework tasks and activities that will be completed electronically and written. Work will be scaffolded to meet individuals needs and staff will communicate clearly with students the expectation we have with regards to completion of homework and an individual's ability. Students will be awarded EPraise points for outstanding pieces of homework and we will inform parents when homework is not completed.

The school library will be open for catch up sessions Monday - Thursday 3.15 - 4.30pm

**How parents /carers can help to support their children:**

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets
- Provide a suitable place equipped with a clear table space, chair and good light
- Provide encouragement and support to children when they require it
- Support the school in explaining and valuing homework
- Encourage pupils and praise them when homework completed
- Be actively involved in the homework (particularly of younger children)
- Sign your child's homework or PNB (if not completed) if you are satisfied and happy with the time and effort spent on the task
- Share with school any issues arising from homework for example by a comment in a reading record. We would also be interested in hearing how well the children completed other activities, whether they were interesting / too easy / too hard, etc

**Children are expected to:**

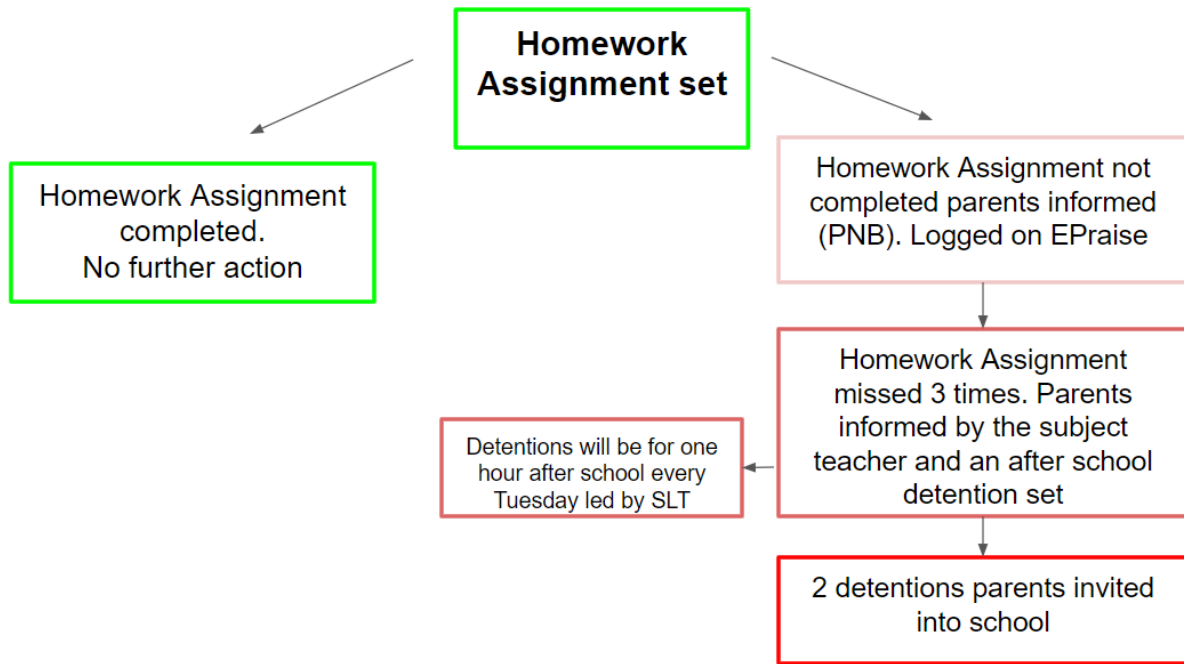
- Make full use of any opportunities they are presented with
- Try your best and always adopt an *'have a go'* attitude
- Be resilient and always have a go
- Where necessary attend homework club after school
- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in their presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected
- Be organised to look after and return books and completed tasks on the agreed dates.

Key Stage 2

Students who do not complete their homework will be contacted by the form tutor.

Key Stage 3

Where students fail to complete three homeworks we will set an after school detention. On the second detention school will invite parents to meet with us to look at how we can support the student..



**SEND**

We recognise that for some students reasonable adjustments need to be made. If you, the parent/carer are confident that homework has been attempted to the best of your child's ability then please sign and date the work including the amount of time spent on it

## KS3 Timetable

Weekly Homework	Subject	Time	Additional subjects
Monday	Reading SPARX (Maths)	Reading 15 minutes SPARX one hour over the week	French 2 X 15 mins a week Science 2 X 15 mins a week
Tuesday	Reading SPARX (Maths)	Reading 15 minutes SPARX one hour over the week	French 2 X 15 mins a week Science 2 X 15 mins a week
Wednesday	Reading SPARX (Maths)	Reading 15 minutes SPARX one hour over the week	French 2 X 15 mins a week Science 2 X 15 mins a week
Thursday	Reading SPARX (Maths)	Reading 15 minutes SPARX one hour over the week	French 2 X 15 mins a week Science 2 X 15 mins a week
Friday	Reading SPARX (Maths)	Reading 15 minutes SPARX one hour over the week	French 2 X 15 mins a week Science 2 X 15 mins a week

Total time per week spent completing homework 2 hours 15 minutes

There will be a variety of tasks set by other subjects throughout the year. These will be shared with students and parents.

Half termly homework

Students will have a half termly English project linked to the topic they are studying.

Parents are able to track their students progress by logging onto the following sites

<https://www.renaissance.com/product-login/> English

<https://sparxmaths.com/> Maths

Science

<https://www.memrise.com/> french

Dear Parent/Carer

Following feedback from parents and students we have reviewed the way in which we set homework and track student engagement. **The new Homework policy can be found here**

Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. This could include after school homework clubs.

At St Michael's we believe that homework is important because:

- research shows that homework improves learning and can advance a student learning by 5 months within an academic year (Education Endowment Foundation)
- it develops independent learning skills as well as confidence
- it reinforces and supports what has been taught in the classroom thereby helping students to make progress
- it helps prepare students for future expectations when they start secondary school
- Retrieval of key information, which is essential to developing long term memory (learning)

KS2

Students in Years 5 and 6 will use Home Learning books which have differentiated questions in them for both English and Maths. They will also receive one written homework once a fortnight.

KS3

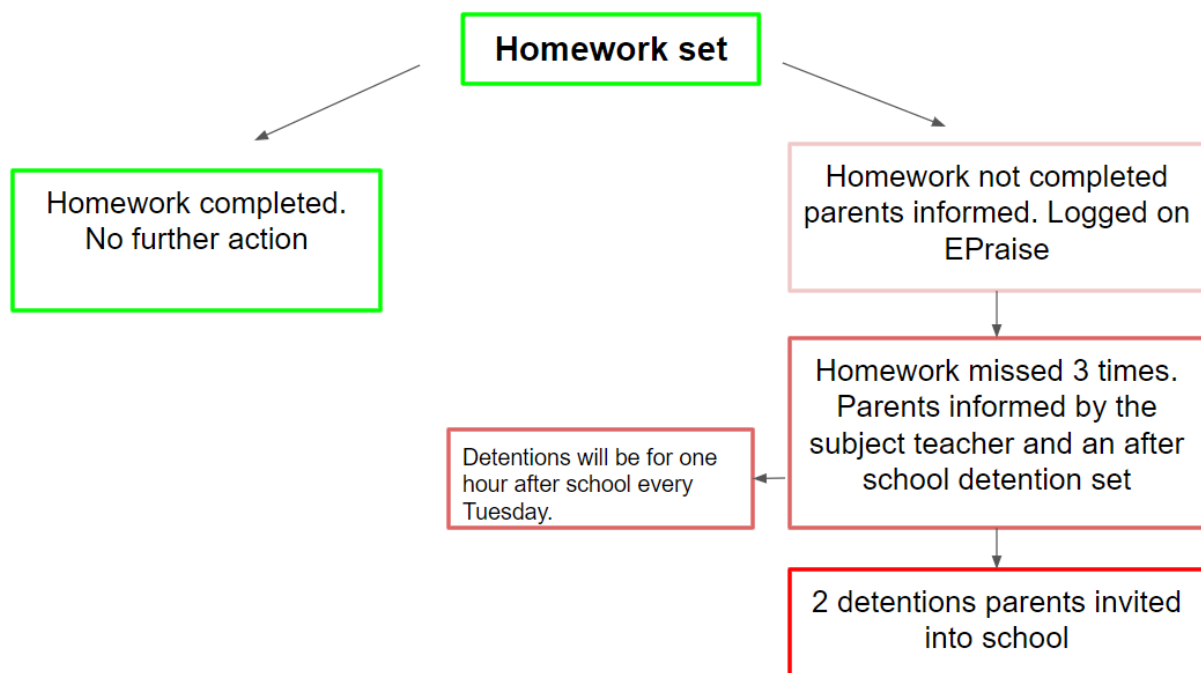
Students in Years 7 and 8 will have weekly homework and a half termly project. Weekly homework will consist of English and Maths (which they will receive each day) along with Science and French.

There was strong feedback from the parental questionnaire highlighting a balance between electronic based homework and written homework. KS2 will see greater emphasis on written homework due to the Home Learning books that are being introduced and KS3 will see a more balanced approach regarding completion of homework (a reduced amount of time on electronic devices). We have also reduced the amount of homework set each week. In total your child will have 2 hours 15 minutes per week which is a reduction of 2 hours. We have made this decision based on the overwhelming feedback about the anxiety caused by homework. There may also be some smaller tasks but these will not be every week (E.g. french spellings)

Pupils will be tracked in school so that we can support and help them with their homework. Students can speak to their subject teacher for further guidance or use the Library after school (up until 4.30) to complete their homework.

We also need support from home. Showing interest in your child's work builds connection, helps develop self-esteem and confidence and helps manage anxiety and stress (a concern raised by parents and students). If you have any concerns regarding homework you can also contact the school for advice and guidance. If your child does find a topic difficult please do not get cross with them. As the person who supports them at home you can become their advocate for additional support and be part of the solution. If you feel your child has tried their hardest or committed enough time to the task please sign the work or the school planner which will inform us of your involvement and support.

Within school we will track students' engagement with homework. If a student misses 3 homeworks we will contact you via email and we will set a detention after school every Tuesday for one hour which your child will have to attend.



**Remember**

If you are happy that your child has completed as much as possible in the allocated time and they have tried their best, sign and date their work.

Email home standardised

Dear Parent/carer

We need to inform you that your child has missed 3 homeworks. As a consequence they must attend an after school detention on Tuesday XX of XXXX

The detention will be supervised in the school library. The expectation is that your child will use the time to complete missed homework or read. Can we please ask for your support and remind your child to bring appropriate work to the detention.

Thank you for your support.

Email letter 2 home

Dear Parent/carer

We are contacting you to inform you that your child has missed 3 further homeworks resulting in a second after school detention. In order to support your child we would like to invite you into school to discuss how best we can support your child with their independent learning.

We will contact you in due course to arrange a suitable time.

Thank you for your support.