

# Speen Church of England School



## Home Learning Policy

**Issued: September 2026**

**Next Review: September 2028**

THEN CHRIST WILL MAKE HIS HOME IN YOUR HEARTS  
AS YOU TRUST IN HIM. YOUR ROOTS WILL GROW  
DOWN INTO GOD'S LOVE AND KEEP YOU STRONG.

— EPHESIANS 3:17 (NLT)

At Speen CofE School we define homework is anything 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/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework. Our school culture has a strong commitment to parental involvement, and we see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- The aims and objectives of homework at Speen School are:
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons
- To help children develop the skills of an independent learner working on tasks alone and supported by an adult
- To help children rehearse key facts such as spelling patterns
- To promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- To give parents an overview of what children are learning in class
- To enable some aspects of the curriculum to be further explored independently
- To help children develop good work habits for the future

### **Research and Evidence Base**

Research from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) shows that homework can have a positive impact on children's learning, but this impact is smaller at primary level than at secondary level, and is greatest when homework is short, focused and clearly linked to what is being taught in class. The Department for Education does not require schools to set homework, and research into younger children specifically suggests that lengthy or open-ended homework tasks can be overwhelming and may reduce valuable time for play, rest and family life. In line with this evidence, homework at Speen School for our infant-age children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) is kept short, purposeful and manageable, focusing on reading and spelling rather than extensive or time-consuming tasks.

### **Homework at Speen School**

Expectations for each year group:

#### **Reception**

- Reading books set by school based on the chosen phonics scheme.
- Sharing stories with their parents from the books chosen during library time.

#### **Year 1**

- Reading books that support our phonics scheme.
- Sharing books from the school library with their parents/carers).
- Each week the children will have spelling words to learn.

#### **Year 2 Reading**

- Reading set books from the Pearson Scheme.

- Reading 'Super Star Reader' books.
- Each week the children will have a number of spelling words to learn and will then select spelling words to write in a sentence.

### **Optional Homework**

Reading and spellings are the main homework set for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. In addition, children have access to online programmes such as Doodle Maths and Letterjoin, which parents and children may choose to use to consolidate key skills. These programmes are optional and are there for families who would like extra practice, rather than being set as compulsory homework.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Specific tasks may be set for children with Special Educational Needs. These will be set and monitored by the class teacher.

Each class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable for pupils, parents and carers. This would, for example, be particularly important when tasks require children to research information and also takes account of children who are involved in out of school activities such as beavers or brownies.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The staff review the policy using comments received from our annual parental questionnaires to improve homework practices for our children ensuring it contributes to attainment and progress.