UNITED SCHOOLS FEDERATION

St Michaels C. of E. Nursery & Primary | St Catherine's C. of E. VA Primary | Marldon C. of E. VA Primary | Brixton St Mary's C. of E. VA Primary | Ipplepen Primary | Stokeinteignhead Primary |
Doddiscombsleigh Primary School | The Topsham School

HOMEWORK POLICY

Background:

Data collected from parents indicates that a consistent approach to homework is required. The United Schools Federation (USF) is of the opinion that homework is important since it reinforces and extends the teaching and learning that occurs during the day. Homework encourages parental involvement in children's learning and helps to develop independence. It is important however to remember and make it known to parents, that when a child has worked for a full day in school he/she may not respond positively to having large amounts of homework.

Our aims of providing homework are to:

- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the schools within the USF
- Ensure progression towards independence and an individual responsibility
- Ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- Ensure that parents/carers understand our expectations of them
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to the children
- Extend and support learning
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for children and parents to share learning experiences
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs
- Prepare Year Six children for the secondary phase of education

The table overleaf gives the agreed amount of homework for children.

In Key Stage Two, children will use homework books for Numeracy and Literacy or use online resources as appropriate. All work will be marked using the school Marking Policy.

	Minutes per night	Minutes per week
Foundation	10 minutes Reading and word work	
Year 1	10 minutes Reading and spelling	
Year 2	10 minutes Reading and spelling	20 minutes Maths, English or Topic (Subject will alternate each week)
Year 3	10 minutes Reading, spelling and multiplication facts	20 minutes Maths or *English* (Subject will alternate each week)
Year 4	15 minutes Reading, spelling and multiplication facts	25 minutes Maths or 25 minutes - *English* (Subject will alternate each week)
Year 5	15 minutes Reading, spelling and multiplication facts	30 minutes Maths or *English* (Subject will alternate each week)
Year 6	15 minutes Reading, spelling and multiplication facts	40 minutes Maths or English

For children to make the most progress reading, spelling and multiplication/division facts need to be practised daily.

Children will be given five days to complete English and Maths homework. The times are a guide and an indication of how long a child should spend intensively working on their homework.

Children should be encouraged to discuss any problems they are having with their teacher. It is not acceptable for children to struggle excessively, causing upset at home. Obtaining parental support is of paramount importance.

A Key Stage 2, Homework Club will be provided if needed for children who wish to do some of their homework at school and support will be provided. One day's leeway will be given regarding the deadline for handing in work. Unfinished or missing work will need to be completed during lunchtimes. If a child does not complete their homework on more than three occasions concerns will be discussed with parents.

Homework will:

- Increase as children get older
- Be relevant to the class work
- Be encouraged by a positive approach
- Encourage parents to support their children's work by providing where possible a quiet undisturbed environment
- Be marked if handed in on time
- Not necessarily be written work

Following these guidelines will help children to develop independence, realise their full potential and prepare them for the next stage in their education.

Although there is no legal requirement to have a Homework Policy, the guidelines have been drawn up in line with recommendations. The governing body will review the policy bi-annually.