

## Handwriting

During the school day there is a huge emphasis on handwriting and presentation. Children practise these skills daily at school and are proud of their writing. Please pay attention to your child's presentation when completing homework.

## Time spent on homework

At Our Lady of Lourdes we recognise that each child is unique and therefore the 'homework experience' will be different for each of them. Some children will work quicker than others and get more done in less time, others will take longer or may choose to extend their homework with additional activities. All children will be provided with opportunities for learning, through homework, from starting school in Reception.

## What happens when homework is completed?

Your child's class teacher will assess the work and give feedback either through written comments, verbally or where projects are concerned, through sharing with the class/others in school.

Homework may also be assessed using tests e.g. spelling and times table tests.



## Types of Homework

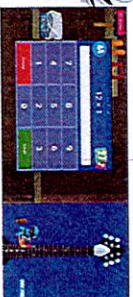


In Reception Class and KS1, **reading is the most important homework.**

We encourage children to spend at least a short time, reading a text of their choice, each day at home as well as school. This does not always have to be the school reading book; remember our main aim is to encourage children to foster a love of reading- so expose your child to as many text types as possible, help to grow their love of reading. We encourage children to bring books from home and take books from school, further developing a culture of handling and reading books for pleasure.

## Times Tables

We ask every parent/carer to support their child and the school in practising times tables. From Year 2 children have a TT Rockstars account which can support this. The importance of children having fluency in their times table recall can not be emphasised enough. Children can not meet their end of year expectations fully, unless they are able to recall and apply this knowledge accurately and speedily.



## at Our Lady of Lourdes

At Our Lady of Lourdes School we believe that homework is a way of consolidating and enhancing the work completed at school.

### **It is designed to:**

- develop skills of independent learning
- help parents to understand what their child is learning at school— building a partnership between home and school
- consolidate and reinforce learning that has taken place at school
- help children to develop positive working habits and self-discipline for the future
- provide a context for parent/carer and pupil interaction

In setting homework we ask and invite you to be actively involved in your child's learning journey. In working together we are supporting your child to reach their full potential, at home and school.



# Homework Timetable

Reception Class	<p><b>Reading of some text each day</b>— remember this may not always be the school reading book, it can be a book of your child's choice. You can record this in home readers if you wish.</p> <p>Tricky words, flashcards and letter formation— where appropriate.</p>
Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)	<p><b>Reading of some text each day</b>— remember this may not always be the school reading book, it can be a book of your child's choice. You can record this in home readers if you wish.</p> <p><b>Spellings</b> sent home on a Monday for test on a Friday.</p> <p><b>Homework Menu</b>— choose 1 activity weekly to complete. Sent home on a Monday and return Friday.</p> <p><b>From Year 2 -Times Tables Rockstars</b>— log on for at least 10 minutes per week</p>
Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6)	<p><b>Reading of some text each day</b>— remember this may not always be the school reading book, it can be a book of your child's choice. You can record this in home readers if you wish.</p> <p><b>Spellings</b> sent home on a Monday for test on a Friday.</p> <p><b>Homework Menu</b>— choose 1 activity weekly to complete. Sent home on a Monday and return Friday.</p> <p><b>Times Tables Rockstars</b>— log on for at least 20 minutes per week</p>

## Helping your child with homework

By all means support your child with their homework, however, also remember to step back and be amazed by what they themselves can do. As your child gets older encourage them to be more independent in their learning. If you would like more advice on how to help your child then please ask the class teacher.

## Most importantly...

As a school we pride ourselves on educating the whole child, therefore we can not emphasise enough, that children should have leisure time and time to take part in out of school activities, clubs and time with friends. For this reason homework should never take over and fill all of a child's spare time— as a school we value the fact that these activities are equally as important to your growing child's development.

## What if my child does not hand in the homework?

If there is a good reason for your child not completing homework then please let the class teacher know.

If a child in **Key Stage 1** does not complete homework, on a regular basis, the class teacher will ask to meet with the parent to see how we, as a school, can help.

In **Key Stage 2** children may be asked to complete homework over short, supervised sessions, during lunchtime. Children will never miss a full break time and will always have a chance for some play. Please do ask to speak to your child's class teacher if there are ongoing issues relating to the completion of homework.

**We do not want homework to cause stress for anyone, if you are struggling with your child to complete homework, then please come in and see us and we can help.**

## How do we ensure equality?

We aim to provide all children with the opportunity to succeed in their homework. We do this by:

- ensuring that the homework level suits the ability of the child
- encouraging each child to develop independence organisational skills and resilience, in order to complete homework activities

- supporting parents who are finding completing homework with their child difficult

