



# **Saint Augustine's RC High School**

## **Home Learning Policy 2021**

# **School Mission Statement**

At Saint Augustine's we believe that every person is made and loved by God. This is why we respect one another. Within our school community our young people will learn to act justly, love tenderly and recognise God in their lives.

Our school helps families to educate their children in accordance with the principles and teachings of the Catholic Church in an environment which inspires, encourages and supports the development of our pupils through nurturing their gifts and talents.

Our school community will keep alive the memory of Jesus through the Eucharist and through the practice of our Faith. We want everyone at Saint Augustine's to experience the joy of the Gospel in their journey through school and beyond.

Together we will work to make a difference in our community and in the wider world. We follow the example of Saint Augustine by stepping out in faith and celebrating our reasons for living and hoping.

Home Learning at St Augustine's, aims to develop each pupil's capacity to study independently, build their resilience and provide an additional opportunity to know and remember more.

### **Pupil Planners**

Pupils should record all set Home Learning in their pupil planner and we ask that this is signed each week by a parent/carer. It is essential that pupils develop their confidence and self-organisation by ensuring that all Home Learning is completed in a timely manner. Pupils in Year 7 -11 will benefit from supportive discussions and communication between home and school through the Pupil Planner. Home Learning will also be recorded on TEAMS to provide additional detail and linked resources where appropriate.

Home Learning should where ever possible be set in line with the Home Learning timetable that is available on the school website, at the following frequencies:

Weekly: English, Maths and Science

Bi weekly: All other subjects

In Year 10 and 11 pupils will receive Home Learning in all examination subjects weekly.

It is suggested that the average Home Learning for a Yr 7 pupil should be approximately 1hr per evening. This will rise to an average of 2hrs for our Yr 10 and 11 pupils.

### **Types of Home Learning**

Home Learning tasks will either focus on supporting the learning currently being studied in class or on developing the retrieval of knowledge over time (retrieval practice). The types of Home Learning may therefore be varied, but should challenge the pupils to know and remember more of key curriculum knowledge in the subjects they are studying.

### **Home Learning: Feedback and Marking**

All Home Learning should be completed to the best of each pupil's ability. Teachers will monitor Home Learning and issue reward points when appropriate and issue behaviour points, when Home Learning is not completed to a satisfactory standard. All Home Learning will be monitored by teachers through the regular checking of pupil's books and when appropriate, through the marking and/or feedback of work. Common examples of marking and feedback include: self-marking (green pen), peer marking (green pen), self-marking quizzes or specialist platforms (e.g. TEAMS), online marking by a teacher (e.g. using Teams Assignments), verbal feedback (face-to-face or with the use of technology to record feedback) and written marking and feedback by the teacher (red pen).

### **Home Learning: Should this be done only at home?**

Throughout the week at St Augustine's we run a supervised lunchtime Home Learning Club in Room 20 for pupils who would like some support and guidance with their work. A Study Club also operates after school on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday when the late bus is available to help pupils get home afterwards.

Pupils are also often able to access the library and our ICT rooms at lunchtimes. Throughout the year many departments offer opportunities for pupils, particularly those in KS4, to stay behind after lessons to work on projects or to give them extra assistance.

### **Parent / Carer Support**

Home Learning is often completed to a much higher standard when pupils have access to a quiet space, free from distractions. Avoiding interruptions caused by mobile devices and television will greatly improve concentration, increase the quality of work and reduce the overall time taken to complete tasks. Research also shows that music is often more of a distraction than a support for learning.

Pupils will often seek the support and advice from parents/carers. Our view is that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved - as long as they do not take over too much! Most parents take a strong interest in their children's learning and we are keen to encourage this. Helping out with Home Learning is an obvious and practical way of engaging with and supporting your child. It is absolutely normal to still be involved in the checking and monitoring of your child's Home Learning throughout Year 7 – 11.

If you have any queries, comments or concerns about any aspect of the Home Learning given to your child, we would be grateful if you would contact us on 01254 823362 and the office staff will put you in contact with the appropriate person.