

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School's Homework Guidelines



Preamble

At St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, homework is considered to be an integral part of learning and personal development. It is valued as a personal study habit essential to student success, assisting in building self discipline, personal responsibility and independent action. We value **respectful** partnerships with families. **Integrity, service, responsibility** and **prayerfulness** will be reflected in an enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding homework experience for students, parents, caregivers and teachers. Homework will consist of two components; *teacher-directed learning experiences* (non-negotiables) and *my choice learning experiences* (negotiables).

Guideline

Homework is to positively contribute to each child's holistic personal development. Homework at St Joseph's School is understood to be a balance of family life, extra-curricula activities and the consolidation and extension of school based learning.

Rationale

Homework at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School is intended to:

- complement family life
- build a love of learning and reading
- provide an opportunity to promote personal growth and development
- foster the development of organisational skills, time management skills, interrelationship skills and practical life skills
- revise and consolidate learnt concepts
- promote physical, mental, emotional and spiritual development.

Homework Expectations and Implementations

Teachers will make their expectations regarding homework clear at the Parent Meeting in Term One each year. Parental support and cooperation of these expectations is required. Homework expectations and guidelines will be included in the Parent Handbook each year.

Homework will consist of two components: *teacher-directed learning experiences* and *my choice learning experiences*. The *Homework Grid* will be implemented by all classes as the optional/negotiated task. The grid recognises the wide range of activities that students are involved in. It also encourages positive family interactions and allowing time for students to pursue their own learning. Teachers will use the resource *Homework and the Homework Grid* by Dr Ian Lillico to guide them when creating their Homework Grids.



Respect



Integrity



Service



Responsibility



Prayerfulness



Effort Wins Success

The recommended time spent on homework and examples of the *teacher-directed learning experiences* are as follows:

Year	Recommended Time Spent on Activities	Teacher-directed Learning Experiences
Prep Sem 1	No formal expectations - Open communication with teacher and caregivers to communicate learnings from classroom experiences	Daily Reading and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice of alphabet and phonics in context • Practice of high-frequency words in context • Word study activities • Sentences to show understanding • Number facts and challenge questions to prompt problem solving.
Prep Sem 2	10min per day- no more than 40 minutes a week	
Years 1 & 2	15 minutes per day- no more than 1 hour a week	
Years 3 & 4	20 minutes per day- no more than 1.5 hours a week	
Years 5 & 6	30 minutes per day- no more than 2 hours a week	
Daily reading- Reading to the child, reading with the child and reading by the child best supports learners' needs in reading development.		

Non- Completion of Homework

When homework is not being completed, teachers are to conference with students and (where necessary with parents) in joint problem solving. Teachers are to encourage the completion of the *teacher-directed learning experiences* components of homework, establish a common understanding of what is expected and what is happening, and offer any support that may be required. Children and parents are encouraged to recognise that they are accountable for the completion of homework. If children are experiencing difficulty in completing tasks in a reasonable time or if particular family circumstances impede the completion of homework, then parents should communicate this to the teacher.



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