

# ST.JOSEPH'S MALVERN PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY



## 1.0 Overview:

At St.Joseph's we believe that homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Whilst recognising that children are involved in many extra curricular activities we feel that homework gives the child the opportunity to organise a personal timetable, which helps to develop the child's organisational abilities and study patterns for future years. For this reason we ask parents, within reasonable limits, to allow their child to decide for themselves when homework should be done. Parents and teachers can assist a child with homework by establishing a homework timetable. After this the responsibility belongs to the child.

## 2.0 Belief Statements:

Formal homework on a regular basis should be confined to the middle and senior classes. Children in Prep-Year 2 will take home reading books to read to/ share with an adult. This should be seen as a worthwhile and enjoyable experience.

Homework will consist of activities that are reinforcing and revising work covered in class. Therefore activities should not cause a stressful situation for the parent or child.

At different periods throughout the year research and project work will form the basis of homework and these will replace the weekly homework.

## 3.0 Goals:

- Develop purposeful study habits and time management.
- Revise and reinforce material and work being undertaken in the classroom.
- To involve parents in their child's learning.
- To develop research and project skills.

## 4:0 Guidelines:

- Each child in Grades 3-6 will be assigned weekly homework.
- The amount of homework will vary according to age and learning needs.
- Homework set will be geared towards individual activities so that the children can complete the activities at their own level.
- Homework should be seen as a continuation of the classroom program.
- Teachers will be responsible for correction of each child's work.

- Reading should occur on a nightly basis.
- Regular weekly homework will not be set when project work is given as a homework task.
- Family commitments or other factors should be taken into consideration.

#### **5:0 Different types of homework:**

A combination of any of the following can be used at any one time when setting homework.

1. Spelling activities
2. Maths activities
3. Family discussions and reporting back on the discussions
4. Writing Tasks
5. Inquiry, 'You Can Do It' or Religious Education tasks
6. Reading & Reading Comprehension
7. Research and project work

#### **6:0 Time Allocations for Homework**

<b>6:1 Prep:</b>	Daily reading of take-home book.
<b>6:2 Years 1 and 2:</b>	10 minutes per night reading home reader
<b>6:3 Year 3 and 4:</b>	Min 10 minutes per night plus 10 minutes of reading
<b>6:4 Year 5 and 6:</b>	Min 20 minutes per night plus 15 minutes of reading

#### **7:0 Diaries**

1. Year 3-6 students to have school diaries, signed by parents and teachers, used as communication between parents and teachers.

#### **7:1 Expectations of Parents**

1. Provide a suitable, quiet place to carry out homework; guide the child in organizing his/her time.
2. Encourage the child to develop a routine so as to always have the work completed on time.
3. Encourage the child to work independently.
4. Support the teacher's efforts.
5. Communicate with the teacher when necessary.
6. Check and sign any work to be returned to school. Please do not sign any work, which is not up to standard, poorly presented or incorrectly completed.
7. That appropriate writing implements are kept at home. (Eg. Grey lead pencils, pens, rulers, red pens or pencils, dictionary and glue) to complete the homework.
8. Parents provide a written note if their child is unable to complete their work.
9. Parents to sign homework diaries

#### **7:2 Expectations of Students**

1. Standard of work should be consistent with the level expected in the class. Eg. Correct letter formation, borders, correct writing implements used
2. Each child is to complete its homework with as much independence as possible.

3. Have homework diaries signed.

### **7:3 Expectations of Teachers**

1. Homework is prepared and distributed by the teacher weekly, unless otherwise advised
2. Homework is collected and corrected.
3. If homework is not completed by the due date it is expected that the teacher will follow up the matter to its completion.
4. If the homework procedure is disrupted or cancelled for any reason students will be notified.

### **8:0 Consequences:**

We realise that families are very busy from time to time and that children are sometimes not able to complete their homework. If this is the case a note from a parent or guardian will be sufficient for a child to be excused for not having completed their homework.

If no note is presented the following consequences will be applied.

<b>8:1</b>	<b>First incident:</b>	Incurs a warning and a chance to finish the homework as negotiated by teacher and student and present the homework to the teacher on the next school day
<b>8:2</b>	<b>Second incident:</b>	Homework completed during lunchtime
<b>8:3</b>	<b>Third incident:</b>	Parents notified