

PURPOSE

- The purpose of the Homework Policy is to provide guidelines for the provision and delivery of homework from Foundation (F) – Year 6 ensuring that all students, teaching staff and parents have a common understanding of what is required.

POLICY GUIDELINES

Homework is to:

- Assist in the development of organisational skills and time management skills;
- Develop a shared responsibility for student learning between student, parent/carer and school;
- Take into account the need to balance demands between school life, home life and recreational demands;
- Homework will be presented in such a way that students can complete tasks independently;
- Ensure a consistent approach between classes in the same level in accordance with the policy implementation statement;
- Reinforce concepts taught in class in a meaningful and relevant manner and is not used to introduce new or less familiar concepts;
- Encourage students to complete tasks to a high standard and to the best of their individual ability;
- Include reading for the purpose of enjoyment and as a practice for ongoing improvement;
- Homework may include a range of activities/tasks to develop and/or reinforce a range of skills;
- Homework may include a range of activities including practical, applied and written tasks, as well as computer programs such as Mathletics to develop and/or reinforce a range of skills; and
- Homework may support the achievement of learning goals.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

School's Responsibilities include:

- At the beginning of each year, the Homework Policy will be distributed to all parents/carers and will be made available on the school's website;
- At the beginning of each term, the Team Leader will produce a newsletter to update parents on upcoming events and information and included in this will be a homework section which will outline the expectations for that particular term. The expectations will reflect the Homework Policy.
- Homework will be set with each child's need and ability being considered, and teachers will monitor the work to ensure homework tasks are manageable for all students;
- Teachers will give students enough time to complete tasks and take into consideration home obligations and extracurricular activities;
- Teachers will monitor and provide feedback on homework tasks;
- Follow up with parents if a student regularly fails to complete homework; AND
- Ensure that Year 5/6 school students use homework diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.

Time Guidelines

At Foundation – Year 4, homework will:

- Enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials;
- Mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/carer or older siblings; and
- Not exceed 30 minutes a day or be set on weekends or during holidays.

At Year 5/6, homework will:

- Include daily independent reading;
- Enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials;
- Extend class work, projects and assignments; and
- Generally range from 30 to 45 minutes a day and not be set on weekends or during holidays.

Homework activities and tasks may include;

- Reading, written work, Integrated Studies activities and Maths, and may include hands on practical tasks such as problem solving; and
- Real life use of Maths through cooking, travelling (use of directions, maps, time, time zones) and other measurement activities.

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Parent and Carers Responsibilities include:

- Taking an interest in their child's homework requirements;
- Assisting their child/children in developing their time management and organisational skills by providing the appropriate conditions to complete homework tasks;
- Providing an environment supportive to the completion of homework tasks which includes minimising distractions such as televisions, games and electronic devices;
- Discussing with their child/children the learning which is being reinforced through homework tasks, such as, the maths involved in cooking activities;
- Sharing the expectation that tasks are completed to a high standard and within the given timeframe; and
- Ensuring that if their child/children is experiencing difficulty in completing their homework tasks, the class teacher is contacted immediately

Student Responsibilities include:

- Ensuring that homework is completed on time and to their best ability;
- Being aware of the requirements and, with initial guidance, developing a routine to accommodate homework expectations for the year level; and
- Discussing with their parents and/or teacher if any problems arise concerning their homework.

EVALUATION

- This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the School Council Policy Schedule or at the discretion of School Council.

Policy Area Teaching and Learning	Ratified School Council: November 2012	Next Review: 2016
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