

HOME LEARNING POLICY - 2019

Aim

To provide learning to be completed at home that is purposeful and which will consolidate, support, extend and/or enrich the school's programs.

Objectives

- To further the school / home partnership in the education of the child.
- To encourage the development of the child's interests, knowledge and skills.
- To develop a home/study routine.

Guiding Principles

- Home learning tasks are optional, however home reading is strongly encouraged.
- Staff recognise that students engage in a diverse range of activities away from the school.
- Students are encouraged to be responsible for their own learning.
- Home learning is derived from the school program and should be consistent with the child's needs.
- Parents should contact the school if there are difficulties with home learning.
- Home learning set by the school is expected to be given priority over tasks given by other sources.
- a home learning routine will be established in each class (e.g. date tasks are to be returned each week)
- Parents are aware that students have home learning routines.
- Parents can assist students to do home learning but should not do the work for them.
- Home learning is to be neatly presented.
- Teachers will collaborate to ensure consistency and appropriateness of home learning allocations.
- The Department of Education recommends a system of home learning, but it is not compulsory.

Purposes of Home Learning

Home Learning:

- allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class
- provides training for students in planning and organising time
- develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources
- establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline which will serve students for the rest of their lives
- strengthens home-school links
- reaffirms the role of parents and caregivers as partners in education
- provides parents and caregivers with insights into what is being taught in the classroom and the progress of their children

Implementation

Recommended approximate length of time to be spent on home learning:

* All home learning should incorporate a reading component. This can be reading to others, shared reading or listening to others read, depending on the age of the student.

- Kindergarten: up to 30 minutes per week.
- Year 1: up to 40 minutes per week
- Year 2: up to 60 minutes per week
- Years 3 and 4: up to 2 hours per week
- Years 5 and 6: up to 3 hours per week

Expectations

- Home learning does not create anxiety.
- Parents participate in the students' Home learning by listening to them read when appropriate, working 1 to 1 and helping them to locate necessary resources when appropriate.

Students can help by:

- being aware of the purpose of home Learning.
- being aware of their class/year/stage home learning expectations.
- seeking assistance from teachers and parents or caregivers when difficulties arise.
- showing their home learning to their parents or caregivers.
- ensuring home learning is completed to a high standard.
- organising their time to ensure that sufficient time is given to complete their home learning within set timeframes and to an appropriate standard.

Parents and caregivers can help by:

- taking an active interest in home learning.
- ensuring that there is time set aside for Home learning, encouraging and supporting students to complete home learning.
- providing, where possible, a dedicated place and desk for home learning and study encouraging their children to read and take an interest in current events.
- communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of home learning and their children's approach to the home learning.
- alerting the school to any domestic or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when home learning is being set or corrected.

Teachers can help by:

- explaining to students and their parents or caregivers the purpose and benefits of home learning, ensuring students and parents or caregivers are aware of the school's home learning policy providing quality home learning activities related to classwork.
- ensuring that students are aware of what is expected of them, and how their work will be assessed giving students sufficient time to complete their home Learning, taking into account, as far as possible, competing home obligations and extracurricular activities and home learning set by other teachers.
- marking home learning promptly and appropriately and providing feedback to students or parents.
- alerting parents or caregivers of any developing problems concerning a student's home learning and suggesting strategies that they can use to assist their children with their home Learning.

Assessment / Evaluation

Teachers will:

- Monitor the completion of home learning
- Monitor the quality of home Learning.

Parents will:

- Review the content and purpose of home Learning
- Indicate their satisfaction and /or concerns to: Class Teacher, Support Teacher, Year/Stage Supervisor, or Principal.