Homework Policy

Homework can support higher levels of student achievement by extending the time available for students to consolidate skills and concepts learned at school.

There is a community expectation that secondary schools, in particular, will set and mark homework. Homework can be a means of furthering school-home relationships and can assist in keeping parents informed about the student’s learning program and progress.

Consideration may be given to such matters as home reading programs, voluntary projects or activities which might be appropriate in the early childhood phase of development. As students progress through early adolescence, self-planned individual study and revision become important for many students.

It is expected homework will relate directly to the learning and teaching programs appropriate to the needs of students.

Junior Primary

Purpose

- Further the partnership between school and home.
- Support the development of the student’s independence as a learner.
- Help facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes.

Guidelines

Year One
Homework of no more than 10 minutes a night. This could include:

- Set Reading
- Word Study/Word Recognition
- Spelling
- Individual programs in areas of need
- As well as recreational reading
- Set reading tasks

Year Two
Homework of no more than 15 minutes a night. This could include:

- Set Reading
- Spelling
- Maths (basic facts)
- Individual programs in areas of need
- As well as recreational reading
- Set reading tasks
Year Three
Homework of no more than 15 minutes a night. This could include:
- Set Reading
- Word Study/Spelling Rules
- Maths (basic facts)
- Completion of draft writing
- Individual programs in areas of need
- As well as recreational reading
- Set reading tasks

Middle Primary

Purpose
- As for junior primary
- Forming of good study and revision habits
- Develop a responsible attitude

Guidelines

Year Four/Five
No more than 20 minutes a night including:
- Set Reading tasks
- Spelling – revising journal words / rules
- Mathematics – basic facts / revision
- Writing – editing work, completing drafts
- Work completion
- Individual programs in areas of need
- Identification and gathering of resources
- As well as reading for recreational purposes

*Homework can include work contracts to be completed over a period of time.

Upper Primary

Purpose
- As for junior primary
- Forming of good study and revision habits
- Develop a responsible attitude

Guidelines

Year Six / Year Seven
No more than 30 minutes a night including:
- Set reading tasks
- As per year four/five, with work contracts over a period of time taking increasing significance.
- As well as reading for recreational purposes.

*Homework can include work contracts to be completed over a period of time.
Conclusion

- Homework is to be disassociated from any form of punishing students or securing discipline.
- Homework is to be based on the achievement of learning outcomes and supported by classroom practice.
- Teachers can reward children who consistently complete homework.
- Parents / Guardians have a right to exempt their children from doing homework. The teacher must be notified in written or verbal form by the parent / guardian.
- If a child does not complete homework and no parental exemption is given, then the only consequence is the parents will be notified if this continues. This means the child will not be involved in completing this homework at any other time unless arranged with parents/guardians.
- It is expected that homework will be presented to an acceptable standard.
- Homework will be given on school nights during term, in consideration for family and recreational time. Homework will not be set over a weekend unless it is a work contract set over a period of time as outlined for Years 6 and 7.
- Homework will not be given over term breaks.
- As students move through upper primary a consistent and sustained effort is expected to develop.
- Teachers have the right to choose NOT to set homework.
- Parents are requested to support their children and the school by regularly checking student communication books.