

HOMEWORK POLICY

RATIONALE

Homework encourages the gradual development of good study habits and individual responsibility in students.

Homework is defined as work set by teachers to be completed outside school hours.

PURPOSE

1. To extend or consolidate the student's educational program
2. To build a responsible attitude and a purposeful and organised approach to learning
3. To reinforce skills learnt at school, develop research techniques and to prepare students for higher education
4. To consolidate the partnership between teachers, parents and students
5. To foster the development of an increasingly independent management of study routines

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Homework should be seen as a positive extension of school activities.
2. The class teacher will outline homework requirements including a suggested time allocation to parents each term. This will be done via the Unit Level Newsletter, specific project guidelines and individual requirements when appropriate. Students in Year 5 and 6 will use diaries as a means of regular communication between the parents and the school.
3. Students are encouraged to take increasing responsibility for homework expectations as they progress through the school.
4. Students, in conjunction with their families, should determine the most appropriate place and time of the day/week to complete set homework and/or assignments (projects), according to the given timelines.
5. While students in Prep-2 will be encouraged to do some home reading or other similar activities on a regular basis, homework should become more formalised and structured as students progress throughout the school, culminating in more extensive, self-directed tasks in Years 5-6.
6. This policy recognises the value of other activities arranged by parents (sporting/musical), family conversations and family shared reading. Homework is not intended to impinge on these activities.

Homework should:

1. be appropriate to the skill level and age of the student
2. be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open ended
3. be balanced with a diverse range of recreational activities
4. be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the school curriculum
5. be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided

In the Early Years (Prep-Year 2), homework will:

1. mainly consist of reading on a daily basis, reading to, with and by parents/caregivers
2. enable the extension of class work by gathering additional information or materials

In Years 3-6:

1. there is an expectation that learning basic number facts, including multiplication tables, be a part of regular homework
2. homework will include reading on a daily basis
 - reading to, with and by parents/care-givers at Years 3-4
 - reading independently at Years 5-6
3. homework may include tasks such as continuation of class work, projects and research

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed 2009.