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## HOMEWORK POLICY

Policy Developed Date: 2004

Policy Reviewed Date: 2011, July 2019

### **Identity Statement**

St Joseph's; a child safe school, is a Catholic Community in the Josephite tradition where we learn and grow in the Spirit together.

### **Vision Statements**

St Joseph's; a child safe school, strives to be an educating community:

- Where the total development of each child is nurtured.
- Where an environment of trust, respect, hope and safety is built, with direct reference and consideration to child safe standards and policies.
- Where families and the school work in partnership sharing the responsibility to educate the child.
- Where school life is an integral part of parish and the wider community.
- Where the students learn in a challenging, enjoyable and cooperative way.
- Where the teachings of Jesus are taught, modelled and lived.

### **Graduate Outcomes**

St Joseph's students learn to become:

- Problem solving, inquiring, critical thinkers with high competencies in literacy and numeracy.
- Technologically competent and ethical users of technology.
- Hope filled, independent, resilient and confident young people.
- Knowledgeable and appreciative of the Catholic faith.
- Socially adept, respectful, just, environmentally conscious and appreciative of diversity.

**At St Joseph's we are being our best when we are...**

**Being respectful, being friendly and being positive learners.**



# Homework Policy

## Policy

As a Catholic Christian community, we educate all to live the gospel of Jesus Christ as problem solving, inquiring, critical thinkers who are independent, resilient and confident young people. To enact this, St. Joseph's School aims to improve literacy and numeracy standards and provide purposeful and meaningful opportunities for real - life learning in an inclusive and supportive environment.

## Rationale

The role of Homework should be to reinforce classroom learning and classroom strategies involved in learning. It should be clearly explained with clear and concise instructions. Homework is an important aspect in developing independent working habits and provides opportunities for parental involvement.

## Aim

- To reinforce classroom learning and strategies.
- To enable family involvement.
- To develop sound work habits and independence in learning.

## Procedures

The School believes that reading and literacy should be a regular part of homework, as independent daily reading has been shown to greatly improve students' learning outcomes.

The School acknowledges the need for the positive benefits of homework to be balanced with a student's extracurricular, home and family life.

The following implementation strategies, provide a guide as to the potential nature of a student's homework and the time it may take:

## Implementation

### Agreed Major Teaching and Learning Strategies

- Use strategies and methods consistent with classroom learning.
- Ensure homework is meaningful and relevant.
- Homework should enhance self-esteem of students.
- Should involve a variety of curriculum learning areas.

## Organisation

- *Junior Level F/1: 10 minutes of shared reading with a parent (Monday to Thursday)*
- *Years 2 to 6: 15 - 20 minutes of concentrated effort, four times weekly.*

### **Prep to Year 4**

*Reading and number fact activities to, with and by parents.*

*Simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities.*

*Gathering of additional information or materials associated with classroom activities.*

*Homework will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day and will not be set on weekends or during holiday periods.*

## **Year 5 - 6**

*Independent reading and number facts on a daily basis.*

*Tasks such as continuation of classroom work, projects and assignments, and research homework will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day.*

*It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.*

*Homework will not be set on weekends or during holiday periods.*

*Children need to be encouraged to organise their time to ensure all homework is completed within the given time frame.*

The School asks that different stakeholders fulfil particular roles and responsibilities so that positive benefits from homework may ensue.

### **Responsibilities of Students**

- To take pride in and submit their best work.
- To try to be fully engaged with the homework task.
- To use technology responsibly.
- To bring completed work to school by the due date.
- To ask their teacher or parents if they are having difficulty understanding a task or need assistance.

### **Responsibilities of Teachers**

- To ensure that homework expectations are consistent with the school's homework guidelines.
- To communicate homework tasks and expectations clearly to students.
- To ensure that students understand when homework is due to be completed and brought to school.
- To affirm positive attitudes to homework.
- To provide feedback to parents where required.

### **Responsibilities of Parents and Caregivers**

- To affirm positive attitudes towards homework.
- To read with or to their children and provide frequent opportunities for independent reading.
- To encourage their children to manage their time and meet homework deadlines.
- To celebrate their children's learning successes.
- To provide access to technology to support student learning, when needed.
- To provide feedback to teachers where required.

### **Responsibilities of the Principal**

- To ensure that homework expectations are consistent with the school's homework guidelines.
- To facilitate the communication process between school and home and support home/school partnerships in relation to homework.
- To facilitate review of the school's homework guidelines.

### **Evaluation**

This Policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.