



HOMework

School Based Procedure

RATIONALE

At St Joseph's Primary School, we believe that a child's education and attitude towards their education begins in the home. Because of this, we highly value our partnerships with parents and carers.

The family is recognised as the child's first and most influential educator and is valued as a partner in their education and care. Catholic Education Western Australia respects the history, culture, language and traditions of all families and communities. Families are welcomed, respected and actively encouraged to work in partnership with educators. (Early Years and Care Position Statement, CEWA, Pg. 1)

Whilst we believe that homework is an important part of a child's learning and development, we also acknowledge that what is set must remain practical for parents and families to ensure it is purposeful and successful. Homework should not be a stressful experience. We believe that the setting of homework needs to take into consideration the need for students to have a balanced lifestyle. This includes sufficient time for family, recreational and cultural pursuits. As we have no direct control over what happens in the home, we focus on encouraging students to complete their homework using in-class rewards and do not discipline students for incomplete homework. Work completed at home is not directly used when making judgements about a child's academic ability or for assessment purposes.

OUR HOMEWORK PRIORITIES

1. **Reading** – Regular opportunities to engage young children in reading has a significant impact on their overall reading ability. Reading to and reading with children regularly at home will help them in all areas of school. A wide range of research shows the importance of reading on a daily basis in developing a child's use and understanding of vocabulary and gives the best opportunity for early literacy success.
2. **Responsibility** – Students from years 3-6 should be working towards managing their own routines and responsibilities. Independent responsibilities that are established around homework can allow students to develop the skills to manage their time and routines sufficiently and in preparation for future learning success.

Primary school is a key stage for children as they enhance their communication skills, establish and grow peer relationships, and have a growing understanding of their place in the world. This period of significant change and growth also sees children develop resilience and adaptability and strategies to manage themselves in different situations. (Alice Springs Education Declaration, 2020. Pg. 8)

3. **Relationships** - Homework supports the relationship between home and school by regularly connecting families with their child's learning. Homework can be a means of furthering school and home relationships and can assist in keeping parents informed about their child's learning program and progress. Parents are encouraged, where possible, to engage with their child's homework by supporting its completion and by giving children timely feedback through marking their work. As homework is an addition to our primary school learning programs, work completed at home is not used for assessment purposes and is a great opportunity for parents to have conversations with their child about their learning.

4. **Reinforcement** - Homework should complement classroom learning and should not include the teaching of new concepts. Homework will require students to review what they have already learnt and should be set at an easy, independent level to ensure the child feels a sense of success.

GUIDELINES

How much time should my child spend on homework each day?

- Pre Primary - Readiness discussion in consultation with the teacher
- Year 1 10-15 minutes
- Year 2-5 15-20 minutes
- Year 6 25-40 minutes

If the homework that has been set takes a child longer than the time recommended across the week, parents are encouraged to contact the classroom teacher so they may adjust the load accordingly

What will be included in the Homework?

Homework for ALL years WILL include:

- Daily Reading

Homework MAY include:

- Maths tasks (online or on paper)
- Spelling/ Word Work activities
- Finishing off work not completed in class
- Project learning

Parents are always welcome to discuss any concerns they have regarding their child's homework requirements with the classroom teacher.

When will the homework be due?

All homework at St Joseph's is set at the beginning of the week (usually Mondays) and due at the end of the week (usually Fridays) so students can manage their own schedule. This also allows for those days where other extra-curricular activities take up large amounts of time after school.

Date of Last Review	Date of Next Review	Authorised By
2021	2024	<i>Ashlee De Campo</i>