



# Homework Policy

## **Rationale:**

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School in partnership with families will assist students in developing a habit of being organised and self-disciplined through the process of homework.

At the core of our Homework Policy is an emphasis on home reading. Home reading is a compulsory element of homework for all students, as it is recognised as a fundamental skill necessary for children.

## **Aims:**

The aim of this policy is to:

- involve parents/caregivers in the learning journey
- develop a responsibility for self-learning
- develop positive study habits

## **Procedures for Homework**

All students are required to do the reading component of homework.

Daily reading **to, with or by** parents/caregivers is a compulsory element of the homework. A reading log is completed by the child, signed by the parent and checked by the class teacher.

The following guides should be heeded as ON TASK time for additional activities:

|            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| Transition | 5 minutes per night  |
| Year 1/2   | 10 minutes per night |
| Year 3/4   | 15 minutes per night |
| Year 5/6   | 20 minutes per night |

## **Implementation:**

### ***Principal / Teacher***

- The Homework Policy will be distributed to parents/caregivers at the Parent Information Night at the beginning of the year, which will include the school's routine for homework
- Reading, both for learning and for pleasure, is the fundamental home activity, which should be actively and regularly encouraged by all
- Homework shall be reasonable in its scope and expectations taking into account the age, capability and year level of the child. This may vary from class to class and from child to child
- Homework will be set in term 1 after the Parent Information Night. In terms 2, 3 and 4, it will be set for weeks 2 to 9

## **Students**

- Be aware of the school's homework policy
- Discuss with their parents or caregivers homework expectation
- Accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- Follow up on feedback made by teachers
- Seek assistance when difficulties arise
- Organise their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities

## **Parents and caregivers**

Parents and caregivers can help their child by:

- Providing a quiet place at home to facilitate the completion of homework
- Closely monitoring their children's completion of homework, in particular finding opportunities to listen to children's reading or to read to them
- Reading to them, talking with them and involving them in tasks at home including shopping, playing games and physical activities
- Helping them to complete tasks by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- Encouraging them to organise their time and take responsibility for their learning
- Encouraging them to read, to take an interest in and discuss current local, national and international events
- Helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, watching television, playing computer games and on electronic devices, playing sport and engaging in other recreational activities
- Contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any concerns about the nature of homework and their children's approach to the homework

## **Holiday Homework**

Parents/caregivers often ask for children to have homework if they are going to be away on holidays during school time. Teachers will recommend instead that students complete activities that are relevant to their holiday, such as;

- Online learning platforms i.e. IXL or Spelling City
- Keep a diary or write letters recording events and activities each day
- Record distances travelled and modes of transport
- Keep a budget recording the cost of fares / petrol / accommodation / food, ...
- Collect brochures of interesting places visited
- Make a photo journal of places visited to bring back to class

## **Evaluation:**

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

This policy was last ratified by the School Board in

20<sup>th</sup> June 2017