

Homework

Policy No. 3.3

Holy Spirit Community School North Ringwood

Homework

RATIONALE:

Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning, fostering lifelong learning, study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

AIMS:

At Holy Spirit we believe that homework supports classroom learning, assists in developing positive study habits and instills a responsibility for self-learning. It reinforces learning which has taken place at school. Homework is another opportunity for parents to support their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns and study habits from an early age.

We acknowledge that homework helps students develop:

- Organisational and time-management skills
- Self-discipline
- Research skills in using out-of-school resources
- Personal responsibility for learning

Students from Foundation to Year 6 use diaries. The diaries serve as an organisational tool for the students and can be a form of communication between parents and the school.

We understand that both the purpose and content of homework be consistent within each level throughout the school, while allowing for the individual management style of each teacher.

We value the growth of the 'whole person' and in this regard recognise that homework be balanced with a variety of recreational, family and spiritual pursuits.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- The school's homework policy can be accessed on the school website
- All students, from Foundation to Year 6, will use the prescribed school diary.
- Expectations regarding the appropriate use of school diaries will be clearly outlined to parents/guardians and students at the commencement of each school year.

- Use of the homework diary will incorporate:
 - ❖ A record of nightly reading
 - ❖ Daily signature by parent/guardian upon sighting of completed homework tasks/home reading
- Homework will be:
 - ❖ Appropriate to the student's skill level and age, supporting their learning in the areas of literacy and numeracy
 - ❖ Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- Parents and caregivers can support their children by:
 - ❖ Encouraging them to become increasingly independent with their learning and organizational skills
 - ❖ Organising a time and space for completing work at home and setting regular reading routines
 - ❖ Contacting the class teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework

Foundation to Year 2

Homework will include the following:

- Reading to, with and by parents of 'Take home' readers and 'Helping words'
- Tasks associated with classroom activities, particularly in gathering information required for learning at school
- Gathering of additional information or materials when required
- Promoting discussion based on texts read or heard to develop comprehension skills\
- Use of school diary to record reading and comprehension as required

Years 3 & 4

Homework will include the following:

- Independent reading on a daily basis
- Reading to, with and by parents
- Providing opportunities to assist in the development of comprehension skills
- Revision of multiplication tables and/or number facts and spelling
- Research and data collection for school-based Inquiry-related tasks
- Use of the school diary, to record home learning, key reminders and any necessary communication between home and school

Homework time will generally not exceed 30 minutes per week day

Years 5 & 6

Homework will be placed weekly on the school blog and include the following:

- Independent reading on a daily basis
- Reading to, with and by parents
- Providing opportunities to assist in the development of comprehension skills
- Revising mathematic and spelling strategies
- Research and data collection for Inquiry-related tasks

- The inclusion of personal study. (This will be encouraged for 10 minutes each day on areas of individual learning need)

Homework will not exceed 45 minutes per week day.

Children who have not completed assigned work during class time are expected to complete unfinished tasks outside normal school hours, in addition to set homework requirements.

When a child fails to complete their homework, or does not complete their homework satisfactorily, this will be dealt with by the discretion of the classroom teacher.

EVALUATION:

- This policy will be reviewed by Holy Spirit Staff (2015)

This policy was last endorsed by the School Board in ...

March 2015

References:

Catholic Education Office Melbourne. (CEVN 2015)

<http://www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/the-catholic-primary-school/working-together/>