



HOMEWORK POLICY

VISION

Saint David's Parish School is a vibrant, inclusive, Catholic community inspired by St Mary MacKillop fostering faith and learning so as to nurture optimistic, compassionate people of the world.

RATIONALE/INTRODUCTION

At Saint David's Parish School, we believe homework should be a meaningful and worthwhile experience for all students.

Homework is a partnership between school and home and as a result it is important to note that:

- Students and families have many commitments
- Work set should be easily supervised by parent/caregiver and should not involve excessive demands on families for facilities, reference materials, time or expertise
- Reading is a valued and integral part of homework and life and should commence in Reception
- Not all students will complete the set work in the set time frame
- Homework is most effective when targeted, reinforcing class learning and completed independently by the student.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Parents are the first and primary educators of their child
- The quality of homework is much more important than the quantity
- Set homework will be educationally beneficial
- Homework will meet realistic expectations of students, teachers, parents/caregivers
- Homework establishes responsibility and independent study habits through learning to manage time.

IMPLEMENTATION

Homework should NOT include any new learning, but provide parents with the opportunity to help consolidate what students are learning in class.

- Homework will be suited to the needs and abilities of the individual students
- Homework assignments will be specific. Students should know what is expected of them and the task should be within the student's ability.

HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

Below is an outline of what homework will be expected from each year level from Reception to Year 6. We appreciate that families are busy and that commitments come up, so if a student is unable to complete their homework that night, then an email can be sent or a note can be placed in the diary or communication book.

Year 3-6- Homework tasks will be recorded daily in the student's diary. Students will be encouraged to plan and manage their homework through the use of the diary, so that it can be handed up by the due dates. Diaries will be managed by the class teacher.

Year Level	Minutes per week (approx.)	Approximate mins per day	Possible types of homework
Reception	40-50	10-15 mins	The focus for homework is short, regular practice of letter and sound knowledge and blending sounds in words. Students are also required to read daily from a selected decodable book.
Year 1 & Year 2	50-80	15-20 mins	The focus for homework is regular practice and reinforcement of strategies and skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading book • Expanded spelling and Irregular words
Year 3 & Year 4	80-120	20-25 mins	Homework tasks will be recorded daily in the student's diary. Students will be encouraged to plan and manage their homework through the use of the diary, so that it can be handed up by the due dates. Diaries will be managed by the class teacher. The focus for homework is regular practice and reinforcement of strategies and skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Timetables practice • Finishing off class work
Year 5 & Year 6	120-150	25-35 mins	Students are expected to complete homework and develop skills such as organisation, time management, reflection, creative and critical thinking, and information literacy. Homework can encompass interdisciplinary inquiry, assignments, reinforcement of classroom learning and revision tasks and independent inquiry. Reading is an addition to the other forms of homework.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

The help and support of parents is pivotal to a student's enjoyment and completion of homework. Parents can help by:

- Encouraging students to take homework seriously
- Setting the scene at home and acknowledging that a set time is dedicated to homework
- Providing a 'study' place that is quiet, pleasant and comfortable, with good lighting and ventilation
- Helping your child to acquire any resources they may need for any independent research, by taking them to visit local libraries etc.
- Knowing your child's deadlines so you can encourage them to meet these
- Providing your child's class teacher with prompt feedback if your child is experiencing any difficulties.

Whilst parents are encouraged to take an interest in their child's homework and support them when necessary, it is important not to complete the homework for them.

ROLES

Students will:

- Ensure they know what homework is required of them each evening and complete their tasks
- Let their teacher know if they don't understand the set task
- Record their homework task in their diary or communication book
- Meet the timeline for the task
- Negotiate with their teacher any adjustments to set deadlines.

Teachers will:

- Set appropriate homework for students
- Communicate the expectations of the tasks so students have a clear understanding
- Monitor that homework is completed appropriately and on time
- Provide feedback to the students
- Contact parents as soon as possible when homework is not being completed.

Students learn best when parents and teachers work collaboratively to provide the best possible learning opportunities and outcomes for their students.

If you would like to discuss any element of your child's homework, please contact your child's classroom teacher directly.

SUPPORTING PROCEDURES OR POLICY SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

This policy is to be read in conjunction with any other relevant school policy, procedure or support document.

- Communication Policy

DATE FOR REVIEW

Implemented:	2009
Ratified by School Board:	2009
Reviewed:	2016, 2020, 2023
Next Review:	2026