



**St Joseph's's Catholic Primary School
North Mackay**

Homework Policy

Approved: | For Review 2022 | Updated

POLICY STATEMENT

At St Joseph's we believe that homework is part of the learning process that is valuable when undertaken in partnership between home and school, providing parents with an opportunity to be part of their child's formal learning. Homework should not cause family stress or jeopardize the right of children to enjoy a balanced lifestyle. In establishing this policy, we recognise the importance of family time, relaxation and play, and acknowledge the varied outside of school hours activities in which students participate.

We believe that the purpose for homework is to:

- encourage opportunities for students to review and reinforce learning that is initiated in the classroom;
- develop self-regulation and effective study habits that students require in secondary school and later in life;
- develop positive strategies for learning;
- provide parents/caregivers with an opportunity to be directly involved in their child's education;
- and, to receive positive feedback from home and school.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Homework is most beneficial when:

- It reinforces and extends classwork and consolidates basic skills and knowledge.
- It is challenging and purposeful, but not too demanding.
- Students take responsibility for their homework, supported by their parents or caregivers.
- It is well coordinated and teacher expectations are clearly communicated.
- It is set on a regular basis and establishes a routine of home study.
- Teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varied and age appropriate.
- It takes into account students' home responsibilities and extra-curricular activities.
- It is marked promptly.
- Feedback is provided to students.



IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

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 an annual review of the school's homework guidelines

Teachers

- To encourage self-responsibility on the part of the students
- To communicate homework expectations to the students and parents
- To ensure that the resources required for homework tasks are easily obtained by the students
- To provide ways for parents to communicate with teachers about homework
- To discuss homework practices with year level colleagues to ensure consistency at each year level
- To ensure that no new concepts or skills are introduced through homework
- To select homework tasks that reinforce classroom learning
- To affirm positive attitudes to homework

Students

- To always aim high and take pride in their work
- To take responsibility for all necessary materials required for homework tasks
- To bring completed homework to school by the due date
- To talk to parents and teacher if having difficulty with homework

Parents and caregivers can help their children by

- Reading with/to their children or providing opportunities for independent reading
- Encouraging their children to organise their time, gain independence in being responsible for their homework folders, diaries etc.
- Helping their children to monitor the amount of time spent on completing homework, watching television, using social media, playing computer games and engaging in physical and other recreational activities
- Affirming and celebrating their learning successes
- Taking an active interest in their child's development and learning
- Providing a conducive learning environment
- Providing guidance and support
- Providing feedback to relevant teacher as required



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Suggested Time allocations

Year Level	Amount of time that you may expect your child to spend on homework	Homework is likely to consist of the following activities
Prep	N/A	Reading to/with/by parents or caregivers.
Years 1 & 3	15 mins per day + Reading every day	Preparations for oral presentations <i>e.g. Show & Tell.</i> Review & reinforce sight words/spelling, maths facts
Year 4 - 6	Up to 25 mins per day + Reading every day	Preparations for oral presentations Review & reinforce multiplication/division facts and spelling words

In addition to these compulsory activities, classes from Years 3 – 6 will also be given a free choice Homework Grid, with a range of activities to extend their current learning and engage in a variety of activities with their family which are completely optional. Students can complete some, all or none of these activities, depending on their interests.

*Students from Years 4-6 may also choose to work on research assignments at home, at the discretion of their teachers.