



St Kilian's Primary School

Homework Policy

Definition

'Homework' is any form of work that is set by the school to be completed outside of school hours. Homework is used to complement and reinforce learning in the classroom, not to supplement learning and teaching in the classroom.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline to students, parents/guardians and school staff, St Kilian's Primary School's expectations for homework and at-home learning.

Aims

- To support classroom learning
- To develop responsibility for self learning
- To develop positive study habits
- To develop time management skills

Preamble

This 'Homework Policy' takes into consideration a number of factors:

- Community expectations regarding the completion of homework
- Researching regarding the value and purpose of homework
- The personal and developmental needs of each student
- The varying and differing needs and lifestyles of students time outside school hours
- Homework is a partnership between the school and home

St Kilian's School acknowledges that homework should be assigned and adapted to meet the personal and developmental needs of each student.

St Kilian's School recognises that current research confirms homework has little impact on raising the educational achievement of students who are of primary school age. Homework in the Secondary School setting has a slightly positive impact on student outcomes.

The St Kilian's School acknowledges that homework is beneficial when it is assigned to students to practice and consolidate new learning and concepts taught in the classroom, at their level of development. The school also acknowledges introductions to new learning ideas and concepts as homework, in preparation for future planned units of work to be learnt in the classroom, may benefit the students.

The school acknowledges the type of homework assigned to students, not the quantity, that may lead to better student outcomes. Homework needs to be flexible and allow for families' and students' varied needs and lifestyles.

Implementation

- The school's 'Homework Policy' will be accessible to parents and students, via the school's website, found at:
- Classroom teachers may set daily/weekly/fortnightly homework tasks and/or projects, which are appropriate to each year level.
- There may be times when no daily/weekly/fortnightly homework is set by the teacher.
- Homework tasks will be relevant to the classroom curriculum.
- Homework tasks completed are to be acknowledged by the parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Returned homework needs to meet the classroom teacher's expectations.
- Disciplinary action for non-completion of homework (without parental/guardian acknowledgement) is at the classroom teacher's discretion.
- No set homework will be assigned to students who are on extended holidays from school. The school's recommendation is that students on holidays continue to make reading a part of their daily routine whilst away from school.
- Students away from school for extended periods of time due to illness are encouraged to make reading a part of their daily routine.

Student Responsibilities

Students' responsibilities in relation to homework are:

- Complete all assigned homework to the best of their ability
- Take individual responsibility for completing homework tasks assigned
- Bring completed homework back to school by the due date
- Read for the prescribed amount of time each night
- Use technology, if required, responsibly
- Ask the parent/guardian or teacher for assistance if they are having difficulty understanding or completing homework tasks assigned.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians can assist their child/children by:

- Developing a positive approach to student homework.
- Encourage their child to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and organisation.
- Ensure there is a balance between the time their child spends on homework and time they spend on recreational/leisure activities.
- Understand the school's priority for homework tasks set is Reading.
- Discuss with classroom teachers any concerns they may have about homework.
- Discuss homework with their child.
- Support their child in completing homework.

Teacher Responsibilities

Teachers can assist their students by:

- Setting regular homework to help students establish home learning routines
- Assign homework tasks related to class work that are at each student's level of need/ability
- Have similar homework expectations as other classes of the same grade/unit
- Give students enough time to complete homework tasks set, taking into account students' home obligations and extracurricular activities

- Assist students in developing organisational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning.
- Develop strategies that include parents/guardians as active partners in homework.
- Provide feedback to students on homework tasks completed.

Homework Expectations

	Reading	Other	Suggested Time (per night)
Foundation	Nightly reading, which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● being read to, ● reading aloud, ● reading borrowed books from the library and/or ● the reading of independent take home books. 	Mathematics: rehearsing and practicing basic number facts.	10 minutes
Grade 1/2	Nightly reading, which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● being read to, ● reading aloud, ● reading borrowed books from the library and/or ● the reading of independent take home books. 	Mathematics: rehearsing and practicing basic number facts.	10 - 15 minutes
Grade 3/4	Nightly reading, which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Independent reading ● reading aloud ● reading borrowed books from the library ● the reading of independent take home books and/or ● the viewing of videos for information or entertainment 	Mathematics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● rehearsing and practicing basic number facts. ● Practice of concepts learnt in the classroom 	15 - 20 minutes
Grade 5/6	Nightly reading, which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Independent reading ● reading responses ● reading aloud ● reading borrowed books from the library and/or ● the viewing of videos for information or entertainment 	Mathematics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● rehearsing and practicing basic number facts. ● Practice of concepts learnt in the classroom Project Work	20 - 40 minutes

Monitoring and Evaluation

During the course of the school year, the Leadership Team will require staff to provide feedback in relation to the homework practices of their students, in view of the 'St Kilian's Homework' policy.

Evaluation of the 'St Kilian's Homework Policy' will take place cyclically, for relevance and effectiveness.

Ratified: September 2019

To be Reviewed: 2022