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ST JAMES
THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
*Learning with strength
and in gentleness*

Homework Policy

Rationale

At St James the Apostle Primary School (**the School**), we believe that the quality of homework assigned is likely to be more important than the quantity. Student learning can be enhanced if homework is at the appropriate age and ability level, built on the knowledge from the learning at school and is relevant to the student's needs.

Research suggests there is no consistent evidence that homework lifts academic performance for children in primary school. However, some research suggests that it may have benefits for secondary school students (Earp, J. (2014). *Does homework contribute to student success?* Retrieved from Teacher Magazine: <https://www.teachermagazine.com.au/article/does-homework-contribute-to-student-success>).

Objectives

This Policy aims to guide teachers, students and families in the setting and completion of homework from Years Prep to 6.

Homework can assist in:

- consolidating new concepts learnt at school;
- connecting the new concepts learnt to life outside of school;
- developing time management and organisational skills;
- creating lifelong responsible learners;
- providing opportunities for parents to participate in their child's learning; and
- establishing a school-home partnership.

Implementation

Homework at the School is focussed on developing individual and necessary skills in the students. This cannot be achieved by a generic homework sheet, but by practising skills as directed by the teacher.

Students should complete **Daily Expectation** tasks without further direction from a teacher.

Tasks that are classed as **When Necessary** may require direction and instructions from a teacher in order for the tasks to be completed to their fullest and within the time frame required.

	<i>Early Years</i> Years Prep - 2	<i>Middle Years</i> Years 3 - 4	<i>Senior Years</i> Years 5 - 6
<p>Daily Expectations</p> <p><i>These tasks should be completed nightly</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading to, with and by an adult • Number facts, such as tens facts and counting forward / backward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent reading • Multiplication facts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent reading • Multiplication facts
<p>When Necessary</p> <p><i>These tasks are directed by teachers and should be completed as per their instructions.</i></p> <p><i>These instructions may be supplied in hard copy or available online.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading/writing High Frequency Words • Number problems • Practising handwriting • Practising typing skills • Puzzles and games • Real life observations related to all areas of the curriculum, eg; the language used in TV ads, or how many bedrooms are in the house • Completing tasks related to inquiry learning • Completing tasks provided online through Seesaw or G Suite tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading/writing spelling or High Frequency Words • Practising typing skills • Research for in-class use • Practical maths activities • Real life observations related to all areas of the curriculum, eg; what time the sun sets each night • Completing tasks related to inquiry learning • Completing class work • Completing tasks provided online through Seesaw or G Suite tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing spelling words • Developing skills taught in all areas of the curriculum • Practising typing skills • Research for in-class use • Real life observations related to all areas of the curriculum, eg; duration of events • Completing tasks related to inquiry learning • Completing class work • Completing tasks provided online through Seesaw or G Suite tools
<p>Daily work should not exceed:</p>	15 minutes	20 minutes	30 minutes

Parents will be supplied with some suggestions on possible activities if required, however this is not compulsory. As research suggests that homework has little impact on academic performance, students will

not receive a set homework sheet. Homework sheets will be made available to families only upon request from the parents.

Completion of *When necessary* homework will be recorded by the teacher. Monitoring and feedback will be provided by the teacher who has set the *When necessary* homework.

Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed every four years to take account of any changed expectations or practices as part of the School's review cycle.

Authorised by: Mary Abbott (Principal)

Date: August 2016

Version history:

1.0: Original publication

1.1 (September 2017): Addition of tasks; clarification of role of teacher