



ST JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

‘Building Independent & Responsible Learners’

Rationale:

Homework can help students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Parents are an important part of the education process. Homework provides an opportunity for parents to participate in their child’s education and extends and complements the partnership between school and home.

We acknowledge that it is important for student to have time for play, leisure and physical activities outside of school.

Aim:

- To support the school program
- To respond to each child’s specific needs
- To involve parents in their child’s learning
- To promote and foster the love of reading

Implementation Guidelines:

Homework should be:

- Set at an appropriate level considering the age, stage of schooling and capabilities of students, not requiring excessive assistance from parents
- Accessible to all children regardless of resources and home environments
- Challenging and purposeful, but not so demanding that it has adverse effects on student motivation
- Set within time frames structured to allow for choice between completion during the week or over a weekend, recognising individual student and family preferences
- The environment provided at home be free from distraction
- Coordinated with well communicated teacher expectations

Homework:

- Will recognise and accept student’s own initiatives and individual differences
- Will provide the opportunity for the students to apply skills and knowledge developed through the curriculum
- Will provide the opportunity for parental involvement/feedback and for students to share their knowledge
- Will be positively encouraged and reinforced

Grade level expectations:

Year Level	Appropriate Homework Activities may include
Foundation - 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Read or be read to, using home reading books, library books, personal books▪ Help at home to contribute to family life▪ Investigate something related to the learning topic▪ Remember to bring things e.g. permission forms, tennis racquet▪ Reading and spelling word lists▪ Teach your parent/carer a concept learnt
3 and 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All of the above activities as well as...▪ Reading books▪ Reinforce times tables and mental mathematics▪ Research learning unit focus to complement classroom questioning and wondering▪ Revision/learning of spelling words and related activities
5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All of the above activities as well as...▪ Reading books▪ Preparing for presentations▪ Self-negotiated learning tasks and projects▪ Revision of literacy and numeracy concepts learnt at school▪ Increased expectation for self-organisation including the use of a calendar