



St Mary's School Homework Guidelines

At St Mary's School, we value and promote our Vision for Learning to be about **CONNECTIONS**
Connections to Learning
Connections to Others
Connections for Learning

Rationale:

At St Mary's School, we believe in consistency across all year levels and high work standards. We value homework as a time for students to complete revision work, extend their learning and to practise skills learnt during school time.

Homework is an important part of a student's education and it helps maintain communication between home and school. It develops in children a sense of self-discipline, a sense of responsibility for their learning and pride in their achievements. Homework should be regular, relaxed, non-threatening and of benefit to the child.

Homework should provide a positive link between the school and the home and serve as an avenue of communication through which affirmation and support can develop.

Teacher Responsibility:

Staff are required to set homework each week through Monday to Thursday and should vary from verbal and nonverbal activities.

- All homework will be explained and will reinforce concepts taught in class.
- All homework will be checked and marked by the teacher regularly.
- Ensure that work is presented within class standards.
- Teachers will set homework that is within the child's capabilities. (Students with an Individualised Education Learning Plan may have different homework to cater for their individual needs.)
- Teachers will have a clear process for incomplete homework.
- Teachers will be available to clarify homework for parents and children, if necessary.
- Homework should not require parents to have to teach their children.

Parent Responsibility:

Parents should check to ensure that assigned homework is completed. If events occur where their child is not able to complete homework on a particular night, a note should be forwarded by the parent to the teacher the following morning or when the work is due.

- Know and understand the homework guidelines and homework expectations
- Support the school in the administration of these guidelines.
- Give reasonable help in a supportive and encouraging way.

- Don't take over. Remember: one of the most important things for every student to learn is RESPONSIBILITY.
- Communicate with the teacher if homework tasks are proving difficult for their child.
- Develop an age-appropriate level of independence in completing homework

Student Responsibility:

Students need to take responsibility for noting homework, required each day and ensure that they are prepared to complete this work each night or as the timelines are set.

- Students should always strive for excellence and do their best.
- Students should respect that time is taken to prepare this work and complete it accordingly for their benefit – this may involve setting goals and/or having a homework completion plan.
- If there are issues with completing homework communication should be made with the teacher before due dates.
- Students should understand the expectations set for homework and seek clarification as required.
- Students should always have a book ready to read.

Homework Organisation:

Some considerations to make homework successful and purposeful:

- Homework has a place in a student's education, but it must be part of a well-balanced life.
- Students feel secure when they have a routine to follow. Try to have a set time for homework.
- Where possible, have a place where your child can work without being distracted by screens or other distractions.
- Homework should not prevent students from participating in an activity after school such as sport, music or clubs of any kind. Equally, students with the assistance of parents should plan such activities to allow time to complete homework.

The below recommendations are seen as guidelines only, and clarification should be sought from the classroom teacher at all times.

Year 1-3: Maximum of 20 minutes per night which must include reading

Year 4-5: Maximum of 30 minutes per night which must include reading

Year 6: Maximum of 45 minutes per night which must include reading

If at any time there is any confusion, parents and students are requested to contact the class teacher for clarification on required tasks. This is an important part of the relationship that exists between school and home and the successful partnership of the educational development of the students.