



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.

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.
- Homework includes reading daily, recording the information in the student's Study Trek Catholic - Homework and Student Diary and acknowledged by parents/guardians and teachers by a signature and/or comment on a weekly basis.
- Classroom teachers may set daily/weekly/fortnightly homework tasks and/or projects, which are appropriate to each year level.
- Students may be required to complete the homework during a break session if handed in late or incomplete (this does not include the unsigned Faith diary).
- 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 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 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 and record in their student Faith diary.
- 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.
- Encouraging their child to take increasing responsibility for their own learning and organisation.
- Ensuring there is a balance between the time their child spends on homework and time they spend on recreational/leisure activities.
- Understanding the school's priority for homework tasks is Reading.
- Discussing with classroom teachers any concerns they may have about homework.
- Discussing homework with their child.
- Supporting their child in completing homework.
- Acknowledging when reading and homework is complete by signing their child's Faith diary and the homework task.
- Include an example of what this looks like
- Signing Faith diary weekly

Teacher Responsibilities

Teachers can assist their students by:

- Setting regular homework to help students establish home learning routines.
- Assigning homework tasks related to class work that are at each student's level of need/ability.
- Having similar homework expectations as other classes of the same grade/unit.
- Giving students enough time to complete set homework tasks, taking into account students' home obligations and extracurricular activities.
- Assisting students in developing organisational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning.
- Developing strategies that include parents/guardians as active partners in homework.
- Providing timely, constructive feedback to students on homework tasks completed.
- Acknowledging when reading and homework is complete by signing the student's Faith diary and the homework task, eg. signature, sticker or stamp.
- Signing Faith diary weekly

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, including (but not limited to) Maths games at home	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	Mathematics: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● rehearsing and practicing basic number facts.	15-20 minutes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● reading responses ● reading aloud (ie. fluency, choral & echo reading as practiced in class) ● reading borrowed books from the library and/or ● the viewing of videos for information or entertainment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● practice of concepts learnt in the classroom <p>Project Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Follow up or introductory tasks as set by the teacher that require further work 	
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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: February 2024

To be Reviewed: 2026