

St Philip's Blackburn North



HOMEWORK POLICY

VISION AND MISSION

Vision Statement

**Modelling the teachings of Christ,
St Philip's School community aspires to be a place of welcome that provides many
learning environments to meet the challenges of an ever-changing world.**

Mission Statements

Because we believe that Christ is the central focus of our school and we are witnesses to him and his teachings we aim to:

- provide an atmosphere where all are made welcome, where they feel safe and have a sense of belonging
- provide a school environment that is positive and challenges all students to work to the best of their ability
- foster in all a realisation that they are responsible for their own learning
- develop a sense of justice by respecting the opinions and rights of others
- encourage all to be sensitive to others and respect their differences
- encourage all to use their physical environments in a respectful manner
- provide a learning environment that utilises the most effective and current approaches in education.

RATIONALE

At St Philip's School, we understand and value the importance of family time in a world which is becoming increasingly more complex and busy. Therefore, our homework policy aims to support equitable practices whilst recognising the diversity of families in our school community.

The purpose of homework is to provide an opportunity for families to share in their child's spiritual, physical, emotional, social and academic development. It is designed to assist in strengthening partnerships between parents/caregivers and the school and assists in supporting each child in developing the attributes of a lifelong learner.

For the purpose of this document, reading is not considered to be an optional homework task. Regular reading is strongly encouraged for students and is considered an essential home activity.

ORGANISATION

Homework may be set on a weekly or fortnightly basis depending on the activity. As the variety and length of time expected for homework varies from teacher to teacher and year level to year level, teachers will communicate with parents at the beginning of the year what their expectations for homework will be for that year. They will also communicate the format

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that homework will take throughout the year. Where changes are made, due to the nature of the task (ie. a long-term project), this information will be communicated to parents/care givers, either online or in hard copy.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM TIME ALLOCATION

| Year Level | Reading | Mathematics | Other |
|-------------------|--|---|---|
| Prep | 10 minutes at least 4 times a week Includes sight words | Mathematics / counting patterns- 30 minutes across the week | |
| Year One | 15 minutes at least 4 times a week | | |
| Year Two | | | |
| Year Three | 20 minutes at least 4 times a week | Mathematics / times tables / maths games 30 minutes across the week. | Projects- Inquiry, RE, SEL, Oral Presentations, Spelling No more than 15-30 minutes across the week. |
| Year Four | | | |
| Year Five | 30 minutes at least 4 times a week | Mathematics / times tables / maths games 30 minutes across the week. | Projects- Inquiry, RE, SEL, Oral Presentations, Spelling No more than 30-45 minutes across the week. |
| Year Six | | | |

Homework is a joint responsibility between teachers, parents and students.

(a) Teachers' Responsibility

- Assign homework regularly.
- Set homework tasks which reinforce work taught at school and which cater for individual differences. This should not be new work.
- Give direction to students regarding the completion of assigned tasks.
- Give relevant and timely feedback to students.
- Communicate with parents if there are any ongoing issues.
- Clearly explain the task and how it is to be completed. This may be done in hard copy or through an online format (Hapara, Google Docs, Blogs, Google Classroom) and communicate this to parents.
- Communicate to parents the expectations for homework for the year ahead in the Term 1 Learning Overview.
- Teachers may also wish to suggest games to play or give strategies for developing particular skills.

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(b) Parents' Responsibility

- Record and Sign the student reading record in either their Reading Journals or Homework Books.
- To encourage their children to develop appropriate time management skills and study habits.
- To communicate with the teacher if a child is unable to complete the homework.
- To check homework books or online formats for homework tasks.

(c) Students' Responsibility

- Reading for the prescribed amount of time.
- Completing homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- Asking parents to sign their Reading Journals/Reading Records in Homework Book.
- Returning completed homework at the expected time.
- To follow up with the teacher any queries regarding the assigned tasks.
- To check homework books or online formats for homework tasks and share with their parents.

Consequences for continued failure to complete set homework will be decided upon after consultation between the key stakeholders.

HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TIME

This is a wonderful learning experience which cannot be paralleled in the classroom.

Teachers are under no obligation to prepare work for students taking holidays during school time, as the work completed during class can deviate depending on the needs of the students at the time.

MONITORING/REVIEW PROCESS:

A formal review is to be undertaken approximately every 2-3years.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED:

1. Students
2. Teachers
3. Parents

REVIEW

Last reviewed: February 2016, September 2018

Ratified by the Education Board: Wednesday 13th February 2019

This policy will be reviewed in 2020