


Policy		
Policy Name		
Homework		
No.1	Version 1.3	
Date 8/6/16	Review led by Anthony Hockey	
Date Endorsed 8/6/16		

Purpose

Rationale:

- Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good study habits, and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning. Homework also gives parents the opportunity to become involved in their children's learning and to recognise that each child learns differently and has different skills and abilities.
- The level of complexity of the homework task should allow for students to complete it with minimal parental assistance.

Aims:

- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop positive study habits.
- To develop a responsibility for self-learning.
- To involve parents in the learning journey.

Scope

- St Paul's Catholic Primary School, Nightcliff

Policy Statements

- The school's homework policy will be made available to parents at the commencement of each school year.
- Homework activities should be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open-ended.
- Each set task must be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the outcomes expected to be achieved in each year level.
- All homework activities will be viewed with feedback and support provided by teachers.

- Links to additional open ended challenges that are appropriate to students of a variety of ages, will be promoted through the school website and Facebook page, newsletter and Learning Platform for students to access if they wish. Students taking up this opportunity could write a reflection of learning in their homework books so their teacher is aware of the additional work being undertaken.
- Homework will generally be set for a week, however teachers may set homework for a term or unit of work. For some classes, this will be Monday distribution and Friday submission, however other classes may allow weekends for completion of homework and submission earlier in the week. At the beginning of each year, parents will be notified of the class teacher's preference for the return of homework.
- Extension activities will be available for those children who would like to do alternative work. This homework is optional. Parents may encourage students to complete optional homework if they believe their child is capable of completing more than the assigned amount. The completion of optional homework should be negotiated between parents and children. Students undertaking extension homework are encouraged to write a reflection on learning in their homework books so their teacher is aware of the additional work being undertaken.
- It is acceptable for teachers to assign unfinished classroom activities as homework tasks.

Junior Primary Years (Transition – Year 2)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Nightly Reading (10 minutes)
- Reading activities to, with and by parents (10 minutes) (school take-home books)
- Simple extension tasks associated with classroom activities
- Gathering of additional information or materials for class activities
- *Online activities*

Homework will be expected 4 times per week and will generally not exceed 20 minutes per day (including reading time). Homework will not be set during vacation periods.

Middle Primary (Years 3 – 4)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading and spelling activities on a daily basis (class texts or books of interest)
- Maths revision
- Tasks may include continuation of classroom concepts or projects
- Online activities

Homework will be expected 4 times per week and will generally not exceed 30 minutes per day (including reading time). Homework will not be set during vacation periods.

Senior Primary (Years 5-6)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- Independent reading on a daily basis (books of interest)
- Maths revision
- Tasks may include continuation of classroom concepts and research.
- Online activities

Homework will be expected 4 times per week and will generally not exceed 40-60 minutes per day (including reading time). Homework will not be set during vacation periods.

Holiday "Homework"

Parents often wish for children to have "homework" (worksheets) if they are going to be away on holidays during school time. Teachers will recommend instead that students complete activities that are relevant to their holiday e.g.

- keep a journal recording the events and activities of each day;
- Online Activities e.g. Reading Eggs.
- record the distances travelled and the transport used;
- keep a budget recording the cost of fares/petrol/accommodation/spending money etc
- visit information centres and collect brochures on places of interest in the area you are visiting;
- keep a photo diary of places of particular interest visited during the trip.
- create an electronic presentation of your trip

If parents still prefer that their child has specific work to complete, teachers will recommend that parents purchase an activity book (available at newsagents and department stores) relevant to their child's ability and interests, to complete while they are away, and for parents to correct and monitor over the period of the holiday. (Giving worksheets for while the child is away is not appropriate without the explicit classroom teaching that might accompany the worksheet.)

Reporting On Homework

The consistency of completion and standard of Homework is reported in within the school reporting procedures.

Process for opting out of homework

Parents are advised that if they do not wish for their child/ren to participate in the homework program, they are asked to let the classroom teacher know.

Supporting Documents

Northern Territory Department of Education Homework Policy – DoE File 2015/278 DoE Doc: EDOC2015/13332 Version 1.0

Definitions

Open – Ended Homework – Homework that can be answered at many levels
example Write what you know about the fraction $\frac{1}{2}$.

Extension Homework: Is extra Homework that a student may choose to complete.

Review Date

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle, in accordance with Catholic Education Office requirements. Due to a new Reporting Process being introduced in Catholic Schools in 2017, this policy will need to be reviewed in 2017.

Revision Record

Date	Version	Revision Description
02/14	1.1	Reviewed – no major changes
8/6/16	1.2	Definitions added Supporting Documents added Line taken from Reporting – which mentioned what the comments could be – satisfactory etc Mention of online Homework added Flexibility of when homework can be set added Process of opting out of homework – defined more clearly