

HOMEWORK POLICY

ST. MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL
KEILOR DOWNS



St Mary MacKillop School has a strong commitment to child safety as is reflected in our Vision Statement: “In and through positive relationships, we aspire to protect all children under our care, prioritising their safety and wellbeing.” We continually strive to ensure that every child is safe from harm including all forms of abuse. We exercise zero tolerance to abuse.

Rationale:

At Saint Mary MacKillop Primary School we believe that homework should complement and reinforce classroom learning whilst assisting students to develop sound study habits and time management skills. Homework tasks need to be meaningful and relevant, and should serve as an application, consolidation or at times an extension of skills previously practised. It is an opportunity to strengthen the partnership between home and school. Homework tasks will take into account the needs of the child and their home life.

Aims:

P-2

- To reinforce the foundations of English and Mathematics.
- To provide families with an opportunity to engage with their children’s learning.

3-4

- To reinforce English and Mathematics skills and knowledge.
- To explore learning opportunities in other curriculum areas.
- To provide families with an opportunity to engage with their children’s learning.
- To begin to develop study habits and time management skills.

5-6

- To reinforce English and Mathematics skills and knowledge.
- To explore learning opportunities in other curriculum areas.
- To provide families with an opportunity to engage with their children’s learning.
- To strengthen time management and organisational skills.
- To develop independent study habits.

Guidelines:

Grade Prep (10 minutes per day)

- Reading every night which may include independent reading, being read to or a shared reading with and by parents/guardians (*recorded in reading diary*).
- Practise counting.

Other tasks that can assist your child's learning may include:

- Informal tasks such as discussion and conversation.
- Participating in physical activities, both indoors and outdoors.

Grade One and Two (10-15 minutes per day)

- Reading every night which may include independent reading, being read to or a shared reading with and by parents/guardians (recorded in reading diary).
- Practise counting.
- Gathering resources for in-class work when requested.

Other tasks that can assist your child's learning may include:

- Informal tasks such as discussion and conversation.
- Assisting in preparing self and organising belongings for the next day of schooling. For example, pack books, lunch or materials for the school day.
- Participating in physical activities, both indoors and outdoors.

Grade Three and Four (equivalent to 20-25 minutes per day)

- Equivalent to 10 minutes reading a night for four nights a week (recorded in diaries and signed by parents).
- **Student choice** and **Compulsory** tasks and skills practise from a range of curriculum areas.
- Students are encouraged to take personal responsibility for organising homework completion and submission.

Grade Five and Six (equivalent to 30 - 35 minutes per day)

- Equivalent to 10 minutes reading a night for four nights a week (recorded in diaries and signed by parents)
- **Student choice** and **Compulsory** tasks and skills practise from a range of curriculum areas.
- Students are encouraged to plan and manage their homework completion to ensure that their work is completed by the due date.

Specialists:

When applicable students from Years 4 - 6 may be given tasks to complete based on specific needs in the Specialist Curriculum. This will occur in consultation with the classroom teacher.

Role of Teacher:

- Explain homework structure and expectations.
- Set and clarify homework tasks.
- Correct homework and provide appropriate feedback.
- Set homework on a weekly or fortnightly basis so that it can be balanced with other family activities.
- Provide opportunities for student choice to maximise student engagement and participation years 3-6.
- Engage with parents when homework is not completed up to standard or is consistently late.
- Differentiate homework for students with particular needs where necessary.

Role of Students:

- Take home any materials necessary to complete homework.
- Take responsibility for completing their homework and managing their time (3-6).
- Seek clarification from teacher where necessary.
- Submit their homework on time. *Any difficulties with this will need to be discussed with their teacher, prior to the due date.*

Role of Parents/Guardian:

- Discuss with the teacher if there is any difficulty with your child completing homework tasks.
- Sign child's reading diary.
- Assist in providing an environment and routine that is conducive to your child completing homework tasks.

While formal homework is not set over holiday periods, students are encouraged to read and practise mathematical skills during this time.

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