



## **Homework Policy**

### **RATIONALE**

We believe that homework in Primary School should be planned to enhance prior learning, to provide practice and to encourage students to explore the world in which they live. Many students have after-school activities and we recognise the importance of time for relaxation after a busy school day and time to interact with family members. The nature of homework activities will vary for different ages and will cater for individual needs.

Homework aims to develop independence, organisational skills and responsibility in students. It strengthens the partnership between home and school.

### **GOALS**

- To communicate with parents about appropriate ways of encouraging their children and creating suitable conditions for learning
- To encourage independence, responsibility and self-directed learning
- To provide opportunities for students to practise skills learnt in the classroom
- To encourage parents to be involved in their child's learning

### **GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

- Parents will be informed of the type of homework and the expected time allocation.
- Homework, other than reading, may not be allocated every night.
- Daily reading is expected at every grade level.
- In setting homework, classroom teachers will consider individual needs and allow for negotiation.
- The following homework is suggested at each grade level. (Note that these are a guide only and will vary according to individual needs)

Per night:

**Prep:** Reading 10 mins and occasional other task

**1 - 2:** Reading 15 mins and occasional other task/s

**Year 3 / 4:** Reading 15 mins and up to 20 mins for other task/s

**Year 5 / 6:** Reading 20 mins and contract homework (approx. 30 mins Monday-Thursday)

- Formal homework may not always be set, but teachers may provide opportunities for children to share, interact or to work along side their parents at home. E.g. Suggestions for prayer and reflection, card games, discussion topics, following recipes together, exploring the internet, surveys etc
- Homework tasks will be monitored and evaluated by classroom teachers on a regular basis.
- There will be a consequence for students who choose not to complete required homework tasks to an acceptable standard

### **Hints for Parents**

- Communicate with your child's teacher.
- Establish a predictable routine.
- Make homework time as enjoyable as possible.
- Establish a good working environment.
- Encourage children to be organised.
- Keep explanations simple and practical.
- Be realistic, supportive and positive.
- Reading to children is encouraged and is a valuable learning experience.

### **EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's School Development Plan.

This policy was revised in 2012 by staff members and ratified by the Education Board.