

## Home Learning Policy

### Rationale:

At St. Mary's the purpose of Home Learning is to complement and reinforce learning that takes place at school. Home Learning is an opportunity to strengthen partnerships between home and school and provides parents with an opportunity to gain an insight into their child's learning. It encourages opportunities to develop sound study habits and time management skills and provides an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Current research suggests Home Learning provides non-academic benefits, including developing children's achievement motivation and assisting them to become mature learners. Parents and carers may benefit from Home Learning through becoming more involved in their child's education.

Home Learning tasks at St. Mary's are opportunities for families to have conversations and for children to engage in fun and purposeful activities. Home learning should enable the child to rehearse and become more proficient in skills developed at school. Tasks set will be differentiated where appropriate, so that the children can complete the activities at their own level.

Whilst recognising that children are involved in many extracurricular activities we feel that Home Learning gives the child the opportunity to organise a personal timetable, which helps to develop the child's organisational abilities and study patterns for future years. For this reason we ask parents, within reasonable limits, to allow their child to decide for themselves when work should be done. Parents and teachers can assist a child with their work by establishing a timetable. After this the responsibility belongs to the child.

### Home Learning Expectations:

#### Prep Home Learning may include:

- Reading Home Reader to/with parent and recording in Reading Diary each night
- Practising reading, writing and spelling personal 'Magic Words' each week
- Mathematics Revision
- Oral Presentation preparation
- Social Emotional Learning tasks when relevant

#### Year One and Two Home Learning may include:

- Reading to and discussing Home Reader with parent and recording in Reading Diary each night
- Practising reading, writing and spelling personal 'Magic Words'/spelling words each week
- Mathematics Revision
- Oral Presentation preparation
- Social Emotional Learning tasks when required
- Year 2s: 'Big Talk' with parents in preparation for 'Big Write' when relevant

#### Year Three and Four Home Learning may include:

- Minimum of twenty minutes of reading per night, recorded in diary
- Other activities should not exceed one hour a week and may include:
  - 'Big Talk' with parents in preparation for 'Big Write'
  - Mathematics & Literacy tasks

- Oral Presentation preparation
- Social Emotional Learning tasks when relevant
- Children who are receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Eucharist will be expected to complete Home Learning tasks related to the Sacramental Program

**Year Five and Six Home Learning may include:**

- Minimum of twenty minutes of reading per night, recorded in diary
- Other activities should not exceed one hour a week and may include:
  - 'Big Talk' with parents in preparation for 'Big Write'
  - Tasks per related to Literacy, Mathematics, Chinese and Inquiry; shared termly on Google Classroom
  - Social Emotional Learning when relevant
- Children who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation will be expected to complete Home Learning tasks related to the Sacramental Program

**Expectations:**

**Students are expected to:**

- Complete Home Learning tasks to a standard appropriate to their age/year level/development
- Communicate with teachers and seek their assistance for clarification
- Complete work independently with support when necessary
- Year 3-6 students record reading and home learning in diaries
- Discuss Home Learning expectations with parents.

**Teachers are expected to:**

- Set clear and purposeful Home Learning tasks
- Provide clear and realistic timeframes for completion of work
- Prepare and distribute Home Learning tasks consistently as a year level
- Provide set times during class to discuss Home Learning expectations and tasks
- Personalised Home learning tasks for students where appropriate
- Acknowledge or discuss completed work as appropriate
- Follow up with students/parents if tasks are not completed or at an acceptable standard
- Regularly check Student Diaries
- Keep parents informed of Home Learning expectations.

**Parents are expected to:**

- Provide a suitable environment for the child to carry out Home Learning
- Guide/encourage the child in organising his/her time and encourage the child to develop a routine so as to always have the work completed on time
- Support the child's Home Learning through engaging in conversation tasks and listening to child read
- Encourage responsibility, independence and organisation, and for the child to seek assistance the next day from their classroom teacher if they are unsure
- Communicate with the teacher when necessary
- Provide access to internet to complete online activities and monitor of internet use
- Ensure that appropriate stationary are kept at home
- Sign Reading Diaries (Prep-2).

**Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Ratified by: St. Mary's Staff

Date: February 2019

Review: February 2020

Responsibility: Learning & Teaching Leaders