



St Patrick's School Homework Policy

RATIONALE:

The overall aim of assigning homework is to produce higher levels of student achievement.

The purposes of homework are to:

1. Revise and reinforce class content;
2. Develop responsible home study habits;
3. Provide further opportunities for teachers' evaluation; and
4. Keep parents informed of the classroom content taught and their child's progress.

GUIDELINES:

We believe that homework is a purposeful out-of-class learning experience, and, therefore:

- a) the task is clearly defined to the child by the teacher;
- b) the homework task is relevant to the current classroom content;
- c) the task is at a level appropriate for the child, so that he/she can be expected to undertake it with minimal assistance from parents or others; (this is not to say that homework, on some occasions, cannot be a Co-operative strategy).
- d) It is stressed that children need to complete the task(s) set. Teachers will monitor student completion of homework and parents are asked to encourage children to complete homework.
- e) The task is not dependent on resources to which a child would not normally have access to at home.

TIME ALLOCATION:

The following is an APPROXIMATE guide to the time allocated on a Daily (Monday – Thursday) basis for a child in each section of the school.

Pre Primary	Up to 10 minutes for reading
Junior Primary (Years 1,2)	Up to 10 minutes for reading
Middle Primary (Years 3, 4, 5)	Up to 20 minutes for reading and written work.
Upper Primary (Years 6,)	30-45 minutes for reading and written work.

PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) Individual teachers will work within the above APPROXIMATE homework time allocations.
- 2) Some nights may not comply with above homework time allocation guidelines; however, on average the above guideline times will be adhered to.
- 3) Teachers will attempt to give children a few nights to complete homework so children can apportion time required.(e.g. a contract package)
- 4) Years 1-6 use homework diaries and reading logs as an aid to assist parents in encouraging children to complete homework. *Please sign every night.*
- 5) ***Remarkable Reader Programme:** This programme involves students in year3-6 and is an initiative to promote home reading. The students are provided a target number of nights to read. The students must read record their book, pages read and parents must sign the reading log to confirm the reading took place. The teacher signs off on the record chart to demonstrate progress towards target goal of nights read. A celebration for remarkable readers is held at the end of term to reward those students who achieved the target of nights read.*
- 6) Where there is a legitimate excuse for homework being incomplete, parents are asked to forward a note.