

1 Policy

St Oliver Plunkett Catholic Primary School (School) recognises that homework is an integral part of teaching and learning. The Homework Policy affirms the School's commitment to ensuring that a consistent approach is taken to the use of homework as a learning tool.

2 Rationale

Homework complements and reinforces classroom learning, while developing sound study habits and time management skills. Homework needs to be meaningful and relevant, catering to all intelligences and individual learning styles. Homework activities provide important opportunities for parents to share in their child's education strengthening communication between home and school.

3 Aims

Homework forms a part of the School's dynamic learning approach. This policy provides a framework for homework activities, with the following key goals:

- To encourage independent learning and the development of time management skills;
- To provide effective opportunities to consolidate and reinforce classroom learning in the home;
- To encourage extension activities that build upon classroom learning;
- To assist with preparation for upcoming classroom learning; and
- To provide partnership opportunities designed to enhance each child's outcomes.

The School will aim to establish homework that is balanced and allows time for family, recreation, and community and cultural activities.

4 Implementation

Teachers will set homework each week that is suited to the age and ability of their students.

Homework for Prep to Year 4 will generally be set on a weekly basis so that it can be balanced with other family activities.

In Years 5 and 6, students will be encouraged to manage their time and adhere to due dates of tasks. Year 5 and Year 6 homework will be available in student diaries on a nightly basis. Homework will generally be a nightly exercise, or alternatively, students will have set time frames to complete tasks.

A guide to appropriate homework activities and the expected daily time commitment is presented for each year level in **Annexure A**.

5 Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 Role of the Teacher

- Set out clear expectations about homework and communicate these expectations to students and parents/carers at the beginning of the school year.
- Set relevant and meaningful tasks that are related to classroom learning.
- Model tasks and provide examples in class.

- Monitor student completion of their homework activities and if necessary discuss with parents/carers concerns around incomplete homework or homework that requires completion.
- Provide feedback to students.
- Use discretion when determining tasks, taking into consideration the student's ability, home circumstances and commitments. Some tasks may be open ended. There will be no homework set on holidays.
- Specialist teachers may liaise with the classroom teacher to have the children compete meaningful tasks.

5.2 Role of Students

- Ensure that everything that is needed to complete homework activities is taken home from school.
- Practice time management by considering the time needed to complete homework and working towards the completion of homework for submission on the due date.
- Students are expected to complete their own homework. If homework cannot be completed with limited support from the parent/carer the student must advise the teacher prior to the due date and/or the parent/carer should notify the teacher.

5.3 Role of Parents/Carers

- Notify the teacher if there is any difficulty with the homework tasks set.
- Support homework activities and to create an environment and routine at home appropriate for their child's homework needs.
- Parents are invited to provide feedback relating to their child's approach to the homework or any difficulties encountered by writing a message on the homework.

6 Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years, or earlier at the discretion of the Principal.

7 Related documents

- i. The St Oliver Plunkett Primary School **Parent Reading Brochure**, published separately for each school year level.

Year Level	Homework Duration	Homework Activities	Reading
Prep Year 1 Year 2	5 - 10 minutes per night + Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice of Literacy skills Activities that reinforce Numeracy e.g. games, and real life maths, such as shopping and cooking Maths activities that reinforce classroom learning Gathering pictures or resources Outdoor activities and games such as playing with a ball, skipping etc. Preparing for the next day e.g. readers, lunchbox, notes, library bag to encourage organisation skills Religious Education activities Informal learning activities such as talking, playing and other experiences that will broaden their understanding of the world in an enjoyable way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading may include reading to, with and by parents/carers Bedtime stories Quality Literature and/or School Home Readers and/or Infographic Texts <p>Refer to the St Oliver Plunkett Primary School <i>Parent Reading Brochure</i>.</p>
Year 3 Year 4	10 – 15 minutes per night + Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice of Literacy skills Reinforcement of Numeracy learning e.g. games, maths puzzles, real life maths such as shopping and cooking Gathering data by various methods e.g. interviews, surveys Open ended activities that involve choice and cater for individual learning styles Religious Education activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading may include reading to, with and by parents/carers Bedtime stories Quality Literature and/or School Home Readers and/or Infographic Texts <p>Refer to the St Oliver Plunkett Primary School <i>Parent Reading Brochure</i>.</p>
Year 5 Year 6	Homework activities in Years 5 and 6 will be linked to the classroom program. Students will be required to record homework tasks in a student diary. Students will be encouraged to plan and manage their homework using the diary so that time management is practiced and homework is submitted by the due date.		
	25 – 30 minutes per night + Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maths puzzles and problems Gathering resources, researching and collecting project material/information across all subject areas Gathering data by various methods e.g. interviews, surveys Open ended activities that involve choice and cater for individual learning styles Religious Education activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading may include reading to, with and by parents/carers Bedtime stores, novels, library books Quality Literature and/or School Home Readers and/or Infographic Texts <p>Refer to the St Oliver Plunkett Primary School <i>Parent Reading Brochure</i>.</p>