TIME ALLOCATION
EARLY YEARS: RECEPTION TO YEAR 2

Parents and carers are encouraged to read to children and to listen to them read on a regular basis. Each Monday to Friday night, we ask parents/carers to spend 15-20 minutes reading with their child. This time may include reading readers, library books and also practising words or spelling skills set by individual teachers. Many other opportunities will be available at home for parents/carers to be involved in the learning program. **No set written homework.**

PRIMARY YEARS: YEAR 3 - 5

Each weekday Monday to Thursday, students have a small amount of written work or research gathering information, to complete work started during the day. We ask parents to spend time with their child either being read to or listened to:
- Year 3 spend 10-20 minutes reading
- Year 4 spend 20-30 minutes reading
- Year 5 spend 30+ minutes reading.
Children should spend, as a guide, approximately 30 minutes a night as a study period.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: YEAR 6 & 7

Homework for various subjects will be allocated on specific nights. Monday through to Thursday night, students may be set up to 45 minutes written work and have a 15 minute study period. Each week night from Monday to Friday, fifteen minutes reading.

In Year 7, we prepare our students for their transition into Secondary School. Homework for various subjects will be allocated on specified nights.

**NO Homework should be set for weekends.**

For all children we believe that some reading should be done each night. No child is too old to be read to and for parents/caregivers to be involved with reading with their children, we see as vital. The information in this brochure is a guide to what will be expected from your child at each year level.

At all year levels students should be encouraged to revise set work, to read widely and to continue with assignments when specific work has not been set by the teacher on a particular night.

If students are not able to complete their homework due to illness or family commitments it is expected that the teacher will be notified either personally or via a short note in the diary by the parent / caregiver. If parents / caregivers have concerns regarding homework, they should contact the student’s class teacher immediately.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the St Joseph’s staff and School Board.
Review Date: 2019

For further information, please contact us:
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HOMEWORK

At St Joseph’s Payneham, we believe that the giving of regular homework assists in the personal and academic development of students.

This policy outlines the purposes of homework and suggests ways in which parents can assist student learning at home.

A successful homework programme depends on close communication between teacher and parent. Our mutual aim should be to encourage students to take greater responsibility for their learning.

Homework should aid this development and should, as far as possible, involve parents in their child’s learning. At no stage, should homework be an overwhelming experience and parents are in the best situation to assess their child’s ability to complete assignments at home.

If a student is unable to complete a homework commitment after reasonable effort, the child should inform his or her teacher accordingly, supported by a diary note from parents.

ROLE OF THE PARENT

• to provide an appropriate place in the home for your child(ren) to complete homework set;
• to consult the diary and to monitor the amount of homework set each night;
• to encourage and assist the child to complete the work set but **not** to do the work for them;
• to acknowledge diary communication.

ROLE OF THE STUDENT

• to understand the homework task before leaving school.
• to record the task in the diary correctly.
• to organise all materials and equipment that are needed to complete the homework task.
• to ask a parent or caregiver to write a note in their diary if homework cannot be completed.
• to find an appropriate place to complete homework at home.

ROLE OF THE TEACHER

At St Joseph’s Payneham, teachers need to ensure that they set any week day homework that is purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the classroom programme.

• to set clear tasks and if necessary in written form, especially long term assignments.
• to ensure that set homework does not place pressure on families to provide resources.
• to set homework which is appropriate to the student’s ability.
• to be flexible in their expectations ie. take into account the cultural and social differences of families and also their sporting and recreational commitments.
• to follow-up homework by marking and giving suitable feedback and appraising work.
• to set work that does not require an excessive amount of assistance.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

At St Joseph’s School, Payneham we believe that parental interest and support of the child’s education in partnership with teachers is very important and we encourage parents / caregivers to be actively involved in working with and also encouraging their children.

Supervision of any homework is an important way that parents / caregivers can assist and monitor their child’s progress.

We also acknowledge the importance of time outside of school hours being spent as quality family time eg. to play together, help around the house, listen to music and visit family and friends.

“We do not believe in setting homework for homework’s sake.”

**Homework should be:**

• appropriate to the student’s skill level and age
• interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open ended
• purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the Curriculum
• assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided