

**Holy Family Primary School
GOWRIE**



HOMEWORK

Policy



Homework Policy

Related Policies

CE Homework Policy

Policy

This policy sets out the school's expectations regarding homework and the responsibilities and expectations of all parties concerned.

Procedures

Homework is most beneficial when:

- It reinforces and extends class work and consolidates basic skills and knowledge.
- Students take responsibility for their homework, supported by parents, caregivers and teachers.
- It is set on a regular basis and establishes a routine of home study.
- Teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varied and at an appropriate level considering the age, stage of schooling and capabilities of students.
- It takes into account the students' home responsibilities and extracurricular activities such as clubs and sports.
- It is marked promptly and accurately.
- The place of technology in today's world is recognised, however no student should be disadvantaged if they have no access to technology at home.

Implementation

Home Reading

A Home Reading program exists in every grade. In Years K – 3, the children select a reader from class boxes to read each night. The reading book is changed daily and parents are asked to sign the home reading record sheet. In Year 4 -6, the students are still encouraged to read. They may use books from the classroom, library books or other reading material from home. Reading is expected from all students every night.

The Homework Grid

From Year 2 onwards, children are issued with a homework grid at the start of the week and children are expected to complete the tasks during the week. Parent support is essential and parents are asked to sign the completed work each week. Completing the work over the weekend is an option for families who request it.

The Homework Grid is designed to allow for flexibility as it contains both compulsory and optional activities. It is designed to allow students opportunities to include extra-curricular activities as well as aspects of family life as part of their homework and gives students an opportunity to choose activities of interest.

The Grid should include Mathematics and English work as well as a Spiritual/RE component. Other ideas include physical activities, housework, shopping and creative activities. Current events and ICT are other worthwhile options but care should be taken not to disadvantage those students who do not have access to technology. A good balance should be maintained. In some individual cases, the Homework Grid may not be appropriate. Teachers and parents would work together to establish suitable processes.

Family Week and Week 10

Week 7 of each term is designated as Family Week and no written homework is given in this week. Students are still expected to read each night. During Family week, families are encouraged to do activities together.

No homework is issued in the last week of term. As there is no opportunity for follow up on the work completed, children are not expected to complete formal written work.

Time Spent

Kinder: 10 – 15min of reading each night

Year 1: 10 – 15min of reading each night

Year 2: 10min of work on Homework Grid plus 10min reading

Year 3: 20min of work on Homework Grid plus 10min reading

Year 4: 20 - 30min of work on Homework Grid plus 15min reading

Year 5: 25 - 30min of work on Homework Grid plus 15min reading

Year 6: 30min of work on Homework Grid plus 15min reading

Completion of Work

Children are encouraged to complete their work fully and on time. Handing in of the work is another important aspect to completing homework. If students have worked solidly on their homework but have been unable to complete it during the week, parents simply need to place a note in their book. Homework should not involve students spending an excessive amount of time on their homework. The time limits listed above are a good guide.

Teachers are to note children whose work has not been handed in each week. If a child does not return homework for three weeks a formal note is sent home to parents. Teachers are not expected to keep children in at recess or lunch for incomplete homework.

Expectations

Listed below are ways that each particular group can help to the success of the Homework Policy at Holy Family School.

<p>PARENTS/ CAREGIVERS CAN HELP BY:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taking an active interest in homework• Creating routines for children• Providing a quiet space for students to work and setting aside time for homework to be completed• Listening to children read and discussing elements of the book(to help with comprehension)• Signing and checking that homework has been completed• Offering encouragement and support• Offering assistance without doing the homework for the child• Being positive• Reading to or with children regularly• Listen to children read and/or read with the child each day• Supporting children in making it their responsibility to complete activities• Letting the school know of any extra-curricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is set or corrected.
<p>TEACHERS CAN HELP BY:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explaining to students and parents the purpose and benefits of homework• Ensuring students and parents are aware of the school’s Homework Policy• Providing quality homework activities related to classwork• Keeping homework relevant• Including activities to encourage family time• Providing a variety of activities to cater for all abilities, interests and needs• Making tasks achievable• Ensuring opportunities for readers to be changed daily• Being clear in your expectations and tasks• Marking homework promptly and appropriately• Maintaining homework records and providing feedback
<p>STUDENTS CAN HELP BY:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Being aware of the school’s Homework Policy• Working consistently for the required amount of time and handing it in on time• Completing work themselves (with parent assistance only)• Ensuring they are organised with the necessary equipment• Managing time to ensure homework is completed (especially in upper grades)• Communicating any difficulties to the teacher and/or parents• Showing their homework to their parents and having it signed• Ensuring homework is of a high standard.



Holy Family Primary School INCOMPLETE HOMEWORK Notification Letter

Dear _____

At Holy Family School we strive to work in partnership with families. This letter is necessary to inform you that _____ has not completed and/or submitted their weekly homework. Details are listed below:

I would appreciate it if you could discuss this with your child, sign and make a comment on the reply slip below before sending it back to school.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thankyou

Parent comment-

Parent Signature

Date

References

Nil

Forms

Incomplete homework notification letter to parents

Approved by:	Holy Family School Board
Implementation Date:	2007
Policy last Updated:	July 2013
School Contact Officer:	Anne-Marie Marek