



Star of the Sea School

*School Home Learning
Policy*

Open Hearts Open Minds



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SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Our school is built on the core values of respect, inclusivity, compassion, collaboration and honesty. We support our families as the first and foremost educators of their child's faith development. Our vision paves the way for educating students for the 21st century but also draws from our history and tradition.

We guide our learners to be self-managed, innovative and critical thinkers who have a strong sense of who they are and their relationship in their world. As a learning community, we value the skills necessary to build meaningful relationships and for learners to be connected to each opportunity to develop their own personal growth. We encourage our learners to question, explore and discover so they actively contribute to a more compassionate society.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Homework Policy is to establish clear expectations and guidelines for homework practices across our school community. The policy aims to support students in consolidating their learning, developing positive study habits, and fostering a partnership between school and home to enhance educational outcomes.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all students, staff, and parents/guardians within the school community. It provides a framework for assigning, completing, and supporting homework, ensuring it aligns with developmental stages, curriculum goals, and the diverse needs of students.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- To reinforce classroom learning through structured, meaningful tasks.
- To develop independent learning skills, responsibility, and time management.
- To encourage parental engagement in student learning.
- To provide opportunities for students to extend their understanding of topics.
- To ensure homework remains manageable, appropriate, and adaptable to individual needs.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

All members of our school community contribute to the development of behaviour related policies and practices and their successful implementation.

<p><i>Staff Responsibilities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design homework tasks that are meaningful, achievable, and relevant to the curriculum. • Clearly communicate homework expectations, instructions, and deadlines to students and parents. • Provide resources and support to enable students to complete homework successfully. • Monitor and review homework completion and provide feedback to students. • Ensure students who face challenges in completing homework are offered support or alternative arrangements.
<p>Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete homework tasks to the best of their ability and submit them on time. • Seek clarification from teachers if instructions or expectations are unclear. • Take responsibility for managing their time and ensuring a balanced approach to school, home, and extracurricular activities. • Communicate any difficulties in completing homework to their teacher in a timely manner.
<p>Parents & Caregivers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a supportive home environment conducive to completing homework. • Encourage and guide their child in developing effective study habits without completing tasks on their behalf. • Regularly communicate with teachers via email about their child's progress or any challenges faced with homework. • Reinforce the importance of homework as a tool for learning and skill development.

PROCEDURE EXPECTATIONS

Homework Purpose and Design

- Homework will be purposeful, relevant, and designed to consolidate classroom learning or prepare for future lessons.
- It will cater to the developmental stages and individual learning needs of students.
- Tasks will reflect an appropriate balance of skill practice, creative tasks, and inquiry-based activities.

Time Guidelines:

- Foundation to Year 2: Up to 20 minutes per night, focusing on reading and incidental activities.
- Years 3 to 6: 25-45 minutes per night, including reading, problem-solving, and project-based tasks.
- Homework should not exceed the recommended time limits to ensure students maintain a balanced lifestyle. If it does exceed the recommended time limits for any reason, please discuss this with your child's teacher.

Frequency and Deadlines:

- Homework will be assigned consistently, with clear instructions and deadlines communicated in advance.
- Teachers will avoid assigning homework over weekends or school holidays unless necessary for projects or catch-up work.

Feedback:

- Teachers will provide timely and constructive feedback on completed homework to support learning.
- Where appropriate, feedback may be verbal, written, or self-assessed by students.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) Alignment:

- Homework expectations will be adapted to align with a student's Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) where applicable.
- Adjustments may include modified tasks, extended deadlines, or alternative activities that better suit the student's learning profile.

Support for Diverse Learners:

- Teachers will collaborate with support staff to ensure homework is accessible and achievable for all students, including those with additional learning needs.
- Differentiated tasks will be provided where necessary to accommodate varying levels of ability and learning styles.

Communication and Review:

- Regular communication between teachers, students, and parents will be maintained to assess the effectiveness of homework accommodations.
- Adjustments will be reviewed periodically to ensure they continue to support the student's progress and well-being.

GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

Year Level	Guidelines and Expectations
Reception	<p><i>Equivalent of 10 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 5 minutes of reading per night - A total of 5 minutes of literacy per day to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning.
Year 1	<p><i>Equivalent of 15 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 5 minutes of reading per night - A total of 10 minutes of literacy per night and / or numeracy tasks per night to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning. <p>Occasionally there will be ongoing investigations and projects that will replace the 15 minutes of homework each night.</p>
Year 2	<p><i>Equivalent of 20 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 10 minutes of reading per night of decodable readers assigned by classroom teacher - A total of 10 minutes of literacy and / or numeracy tasks to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning. <p>Occasionally there will be ongoing investigations and projects that will replace the 15 minutes of homework each night.</p>
Year 3	<p><i>Equivalent of 25 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 10 minutes of reading per night - A total of 15 minutes of literacy per night and / or numeracy tasks per night to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning. <p>Occasionally there will be ongoing investigations and projects that will replace the 15 minutes of homework each night.</p>

Year 4	<p><i>Equivalent of 30 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 15 minutes of reading per night - A total of 15 minutes of literacy per night and / or numeracy tasks per night to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning. <p>Occasionally there will be ongoing investigations and projects that will replace the 15 minutes of homework each night.</p>
Year 5	<p><i>Equivalent of 40 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 20 minutes of reading per night - A total of 20 minutes of literacy per night and / or numeracy tasks per night to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning. <p>Occasionally there will be ongoing investigations and projects that will replace the 20 minutes of homework each night.</p>
Year 6	<p><i>Equivalent of 45 minutes of homework per day across the week.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive of 20 minutes of reading per night - A total of 25 minutes of literacy per night and / or numeracy tasks per night to reinforce current classroom teaching and learning. <p>Occasionally there will be ongoing investigations and projects that will replace the 20 minutes of homework each night.</p>

Teachers will communicate their specific year level expectations and processes in their beginning of Term 1 newsletter.

CONSEQUENCES FOR INCOMPLETE HOMEWORK

Initial Steps:

- Teachers will remind students of the importance of completing homework and provide support to address any barriers.
- Students who fail to submit homework will be given an opportunity to complete it during a suitable time, such as lunch or recess. Parents/guardians will be notified via email if they are kept in to complete homework.

Ongoing Non-Completion:

- If homework is consistently not completed, teachers will arrange a meeting with the student to discuss challenges and reinforce expectations.
- Parents/guardians will be informed of repeated non-completion and involved in developing strategies to support the student.

Escalation:

- Persistent failure to complete homework may result in a formal meeting involving the student, parents/guardians, and school leadership to address the issue and agree on a plan for improvement.

- Additional consequences, such as the temporary removal of certain privileges (e.g., participation in extracurricular activities), may be applied at the discretion of school leadership.

POLICY REVIEW

This Homework Policy will be reviewed biennially by the school's leadership team, in consultation with staff, students, and parents, to ensure its effectiveness and relevance. Feedback will be sought from all stakeholders to inform any necessary adjustments.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPROVAL

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, students, and the broader school community and was approved on 26th May 2025

REVISION RECORD

Implemented	27 th May 2025
Ratified by School Board	26 th May 2025
Last Reviewed	17 th May 2025
Next Review	May 2026