



St Joseph's Primary School

HOME LEARNING POLICY

Child Safety at St Joseph's - We are committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and volunteers. As part of this commitment we have implemented the Victorian Child Safe Standards to help protect children and young people under the age of 18 from child abuse and neglect, including cultural safety for Indigenous children and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and children with a disability.

RATIONALE:

At St Joseph's Primary School education is seen as a partnership between students, teachers and parents. Home learning complements and reinforces classroom learning while fostering sound study habits and time management skills. Home learning has different purposes for different year levels and needs to develop a student's positive attitude to learning, connect families with the learning of their child and cater for individual learning styles.

AIMS:

- To support and extend classroom learning
- To develop positive study habits
- To develop responsibility for self-learning
- To establish home-school partnerships.

IMPLEMENTATION

St Joseph's Primary School can support students by:

- fostering lifelong learning and connecting families with their child's learning, as part of a comprehensive and balanced curriculum
- ensuring the school's home learning policy is relevant to the needs of the students
- advising parents/carers of home learning expectations at the beginning of the school year and provide them with a copy of the home learning policy
- encouraging parents/carers of early primary school aged students to read to and with their child for enjoyment
- ensuring that upper primary students use home learning diaries to provide regular communication between parents and school.

Teachers can support students by:



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- equipping the students with skills to solve problems
- encouraging real-life problem solving, logical thinking, creativity and imagination
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work to suit the students' learning needs
- giving enough time to complete home learning, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities
- assessing home learning and providing timely and practical feedback and support
- helping students develop organisation and time-management skills
- ensuring parents/carers are aware of the school's home learning policy
- developing strategies within the school to support parents/carers becoming active partners in home learning
- offering a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their child's learning.
- home learning will be set on Monday – Thursday only
- students away from school for an extended period of time will not be given set home learning, as it would not relate to the learning activities at school.

Parents can support students by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to home learning
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on home learning and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- encouraging children, particularly in the senior community, to talk to teachers about any concerns they have about their home learning
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- ensuring senior students keep a home learning diary. Parents are asked to sign student's diary (Year 3-6).
- discussing home learning with their child and linking it to previous experiences
- linking home learning and other activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community in groups.

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- being aware of the homework policy, specifically the requirements for their year level
- discussing with their parents or caregivers home learning expectations
- accepting responsibility for the completion of home learning tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.



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Prep

Term 1 Focus: Parents to read to, or with their child using books from your own collection

Terms 2 - 4 Focus: (5 - 10 mins Monday – Thursday)

Home learning may include reading with and to your child every weekday and recording in Home Learning Reading Journal.

- Other activities may be sent home from time to time based on student need, e.g., mathematics or literacy games

Year 1 - 2 (10-15 mins Monday – Thursday)

Home learning may include:

- 10-15 minutes of reading at least 4 times a week (All reading to be recorded in the students reading log)
- Revision of personalised word lists for each student (optional- 5 mins Mon-Thurs)
- Any other home learning activities will vary according to student needs.

Year 3 - 4 (20-30 mins per night Monday – Thursday including 'read to self')

When necessary, home learning will be sent home that will reflect the learning in the classroom.

The work sent home may consist of:

- finishing off work (e.g., a narrative that has been started in class)
- practicing skills (e.g., basic times tables)
- preparation for working in class (e.g., watching a video prior to a lesson)
- research

Year 5 - 6 (2-3 hours per week including 'read to self')

Home learning may include:

- daily reading
- regular practice of times tables
- home learning assignments
- regularly updating home learning diary

EVALUATION:

This Policy will be evaluated in accordance with the School Improvement Plan under the sphere of Learning and Teaching.