Homework Policy

Rationale:
At St. Patrick’s School we believe that children should be provided with opportunities to become responsible for their own learning. Therefore children will be encouraged to complete certain activities at home. These tasks should be completed with the intention of achieving quality rather than quantity. Homework tasks should reinforce skills and concepts from school by providing students with the opportunity to practise and embed their learning. Homework tasks should not involve new concepts.

Policy Statement:
At St. Patrick’s School homework is an important part of each child’s development. All teachers are expected to set homework that is appropriate to the needs of the students. It is anticipated that each student will complete the tasks set by the teacher in the agreed time and with a high quality of presentation.

Principles:
- Homework is not teaching time. It is intended to assist children establish independent work and study habits which will be necessary in their senior years of schooling.
- Homework will provide an insight into the child’s progress for parents.
- Homework will assist parents in their role as partners in the education of their children.
- Homework requirements for each year level will be detailed by the class teacher at the beginning of the school year. Any changes to these requirements will be confirmed in writing.
- A variety of tasks may be set for homework.
- It is expected that all homework will be completed and submitted on the due date, unless valid notification is received from parents.
- Homework beyond the normal expectation, such as projects, will be accompanied by an explanatory sheet from the teacher, outlining the aims and requirements of the project.
- Homework tasks will emphasise quality of completed work; not quantity of completed work.
- Teachers will inform parents of their expectations for completion of set tasks.
• Homework may entail the completion of class work where the teacher deems it necessary. This will only occur if the student has a good understanding of the skills and concepts required.

• Homework will be set for students on a regular basis.

• Homework will contain a variety of material from different areas of the curriculum.

• Aims and expectations of any homework will reflect the student’s ability and year level.

• Parents/guardians are requested to assist your child fit homework time in with other commitments.

• Parents are asked to ensure that children complete homework in a suitable place; away from distractions such as the television. Sitting at a table or desk is the most suitable option.

• Parents are asked to ensure that children work for the recommended amount of time. Children should not exceed the maximum recommended time each night/week. If students are unable to complete the set task parents are requested to send a note to school to avoid misunderstanding regarding the completion of homework.

• Parents are asked to assist their child complete their homework but not to do it for them.

• Nightly reading is a vital part of homework requirements.

• Recommended quantity of homework by Year Level is as follows –
  
  o Foundation / Year 1 / Year 2:  
    Reading – 10 minutes each night
    Tasks set by teacher – 20 minutes per week

  o Year 3 / Year 4:  
    Reading – 10 minutes each night
    Tasks set by teacher – 20 minutes per week

  o Year 5 / Year 6:  
    Reading – 10 minutes each night
    Tasks set by teacher – 20-30 minutes per week