



Inclusiveness  
Forgiveness  
Service  
Attentiveness  
Courage  
Loyalty  
Personal Best

# St Luke's Catholic Primary School



## Homework Policy

## Rationale

St Luke's Catholic Primary School sees homework as valuable to reinforce skills taught at school. Teachers will set homework that they believe is fair in the context of the classroom.

Children need time to relax and recharge after a hectic day at school and therefore time out to play and become involved in extra curricular activities is seen as important in the development of a balanced, healthy, active lifestyle.

It is important that children arrive at school fresh and eager to learn and therefore formal homework in primary school is to be minimal, not to impinge on family time and most important not to cause stress and concern to the child.

For parents who believe that their child may need extension or more direction out of school hours, a list of activities and ideas has been included with this policy.

Teachers may vary in the content given for homework depending on the needs of the children and the type of work covered in each year level. Children need to take responsibility for the completion of set homework.

It is important that the time spent at school is used for active teaching and learning rather than marking work that the child has completed at home and would be better served with immediate feedback.

The school values and understands that family and special occasions may mean that homework is not always completed and that these are also important learning experiences.

## Principles

Children will:

- review class work
- accept responsibility for completing unfinished tasks set in school time
- adopt a routine which supports good study habits
- transfer skills learnt at school to other activities and situations.

## Procedures

- Children from Years 4 – 6 will each have a Homework Diary.
- Both parents and teachers are asked to check and sign diaries.
- Homework **may** be allocated Monday – Thursday.
- Work **may** be allocated on a weekly basis to give children with extra-curricular activities a more appropriate time frame in which to complete set tasks.
- Support is encouraged by parents/guardians as this is a wonderful one-to-one opportunity for your child to learn.
- Children can become quite concerned if set homework is not completed, therefore, a note in their diary helps to overcome unnecessary concern.
- Homework allocations:

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Years 1-3 | 15 – 30 minutes |
| Years 4-5 | 30 – 45 minutes |

## **HOW PARENTS/GUARDIANS CAN SUPPORT THEIR CHILD'S LEARNING AT HOME**

- Become involved in community sport such as football, netball, badminton, tennis, swimming etc...
- Enrol in cultural activities such as dance and craft.
- Attend courses offered by recreation centres and local councils.
- Learn a musical instrument or join a local, school or community band.
- Join the church choir.
- Purchase creative materials from an educational supplier such as Wooldridges, Dominies, Scitech, National Geograph.
- Take your child on excursions to the museum, Zoo, Scitech and other learning centres.
- Purchase materials that encourage lateral thinking and problem solving skills such as making a kite and experimenting with the elements.
- Encourage the use of educational software on the home computer.
- Read a story together.
- Keep a diary.
- Join Cubs, Scouts, Brownies.

### **HOLIDAYS DURING SCHOOL TIME**

This is a wonderful learning experience that cannot be paralleled in the classroom.

Teachers are under no obligation to prepare work for children taking holidays during school time as the work completed during class can deviate depending on the needs of the children at the time.

Parents/guardians may wish to purchase educational material from an educational supplier for their child. However, it is the parents/guardians responsibility to mark this work and give feedback immediately for this to be valuable for learning.

Practical activities for holidays and trips include:

- word games eg sign alphabet – the first to see all the signs beginning with each of the letters of the alphabet
- 'I spy'
- travel board games
- read a book, brochures, magazines, signs
- listen to taped stories
- visit educational sites eg Kalgoorlie mines
- write a diary – collect brochures, tickets, coins, cards...
- enjoy this wonderful opportunity.