Related Policies

- Homework, Catholic Education Office

Purpose
This policy is to guide teachers in the setting of homework for their class and to clarify the responsibilities of students, parents and teachers in the homework cycle.

The school believes homework:

- assists in developing effective organisation skills
- establishes routines for future study
- consolidates learning and understandings from class work
- involves parents in their child’s education
- creates a link between home and school

Definitions
Nil

Policy
Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practicing, extending and consolidating work that the student has already learnt at school. It provides an opportunity for students to plan and organise time while developing a range of skills in identifying and/or using appropriate information resources. It can assist students with the development of self-discipline, concentration and for students in upper years of primary, establishes habits of study.

Homework can take many forms. Any task set by a teacher for students to carry out during non-school hours can be classified as homework. These tasks however, should have an explicit learning purpose and provide feedback about the student’s learning to their teacher and parents.

These can include, but are not limited to:

**Preparation for Learning:**
Activities which engage students in investigation and discussion such as shared reading, measuring ingredients, completing research, watching pre-identified clips or programs.

**Consolidation for Learning:**
These are activities which allow students the opportunity to practise new skills and remember new concepts such as sight words, constructing texts, spelling, home reading or number fact work.

**Extension of Learning:**
This form of homework features activities which allow students to apply their learning to new and expanded concepts such as research and project work.
The staff at St Benedict’s acknowledge the importance of allocating homework that:

- promotes student learning and is appropriate to the child’s age and ability
- provides a balance between home, school and other commitments
- ensures equal access to resources so no student is disadvantaged

**Procedures**

Teachers will have autonomy to organise homework in regards to:

- distribution and collection times
- marking and feedback style
- activities that are developed for homework, provided they meet the above mentioned considerations.

In addition to these aforementioned agreements a child’s classroom teacher will always:

- discuss with parents the appropriate homework requirements for children with special needs
- allow parents to use their discretion with regard to their child’s ability and time spent on homework.

Homework will be assigned using the following time allocations as guidance:

- **K-2**: 30 mins of homework per week
- **3-4**: 60 mins of homework per week
- **5-6**: 80-100 mins of homework per week

**References**

Nil

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