



Homework Policy

Rationale

This policy is based on key educational research by:

Professor John Hattie (2009) -

- task oriented homework, such as rehearsal of basic skills, had higher effects than homework requiring deep learning or problem solving. Effects were also higher when homework was not complex
- parent support for homework has a positive effect on achievement, whereas direct instruction by parents can have the opposite
- a large amount of homework tends to lower student achievement
- 5 -10 minutes has the same effect as one to two hours for primary school students

Robert Marzano & Debra Pickering (2007) -

- homework provides students with an opportunity to practise and review what they have learned
- the purpose of homework should be identified and articulated
- if homework is assigned, it should be commented on
- parental involvement should be kept to a minimum

Purpose

It is our intention that the setting of homework at St Louis de Montfort should:

- complement and reinforce classroom learning
- develop a routine for students and self motivated working patterns
- support partnerships with parents/carers by connecting families with the learning of their children.

Scope

Homework is a shared partnership between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers.

The effectiveness of homework can be enhanced when:



- it is set at an appropriate level for each student, supporting those who are experiencing difficulty and extending those of high-ability
- it is assessed by teachers, either formally or informally, with feedback provided
- it supports students to have a balance of school-related and non-school related activity in their lives

Policy

- The school's homework policy will be made available to parents on the school website
- Activities are to be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the current classroom curriculum
- Classroom teachers will set homework that is matched to student ability
- Open-ended tasks will be supported by the classroom program
- The purpose of the homework activity is to be clearly stated, e.g. Learning Intentions and Success Criteria
- Feedback will be provided on all homework tasks,
- If parents do not wish their child to be set homework, a letter informing the classroom teacher of their decision is to be forwarded to the school and kept on file

Prep to Year 4

Homework will consist mainly of:

- daily reading (take home books, borrowed materials from the library, online platforms including Sunshine online, EPIC) as appropriate to the child's ability or instilling the love of Literature including: *reading independently, reading to others, reading with others or, reading by others*
- practice and application of skills which have been learnt at school
- gathering of simple additional information or everyday materials associated with classroom activities
- completion of learning tasks at home which is supported by an email or communication to parents outlining the requirements



As per DET guidelines, in P-2, set homework will not exceed 60 minutes per week. Parents are encouraged to guide student's time management. Homework exceeding 15 minutes a day becomes unproductive.

As per DET guidelines, in Years 3 - 4, set homework will not exceed 120 minutes per week. Parents are encouraged to guide student's time management. Homework exceeding 30 minutes a day becomes unproductive.

Senior School (Years 5 & 6)

Homework will consist mainly of:

- *daily reading as appropriate to the child's ability or continuing to foster a love of Literature including: reading independently, reading to others, reading with others or, reading by others*
- *tasks such as continuation of classroom work and research*
- *practice and application of skills which have been learnt at school (eg mathematical skills)*
- *completion of learning tasks at home which is supported by an email or communication to parents outlining the requirements*

As per DET guidelines, in Years 5 - 6, set homework will not exceed 120 minutes per week. Parents are encouraged to guide student's time management. Homework exceeding 30 minutes a day becomes unproductive.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle.

This policy was last endorsed in	June 2021
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