Homework Policy

Rationale

This policy underlines the importance of homework as part of each child’s education through revision and consolidation of schoolwork. Homework provides opportunities for parents to review their child’s progress whilst the child develops sound study habits and self-discipline.

Values

St. Stephen’s Primary School Homework Policy gives expression to the values of responsibility, commitment, equality and learning.

Policy Statement

Homework is an integral part of the learning process and, as such, appropriate homework tasks will be set which are considerate of the needs of the student, educational objectives of the teacher and involvement of the parent.

Guidelines

1. Homework tasks will be set for all year levels on a regular basis. Daily on-task time allocation for general homework tasks shall be:
   - Year 1: 10-15 minutes
   - Years 2 & 3: 15-25 minutes
   - Years 4 & 5: 25-35 minutes
   - Years 6 & 7: 35-45 minutes
2. General homework tasks will not be set for weekends or over holiday periods. This does not include assignment work, which is set to be completed over an extended period of time.
3. Homework should be meaningful, purposeful and set with regard for the student’s individual abilities and needs. It should not place undue burden on the student or pressure on the home situation.
4. Homework of an assignment or research nature must be preceded with skill development at school with expectations and steps in the preparation of the assignment being clearly defined.
5. Class teachers are responsible for ensuring that homework is corrected as soon as possible after the student has completed it.
6. Student’s homework tasks are to be communicated in a written form.
7. No untaught tasks should be set as homework. It should be revision, consolidation, completion or extension of work already taught in class.
8. Students must accept a level of personal responsibility for homework materials, the completion of homework to an acceptable standard and the presentation at the required time for correction, commensurate with age, maturity and ability.
9. Parents are expected to ensure a suitable environment is provided for children to complete their homework.
10. Ideally parents will show an interest in their child’s homework through encouragement and supervision. They are not expected to complete or correct their child’s homework. Initialling homework is encouraged.

11. Parents should contact the class teacher if the student is experiencing ongoing difficulties with homework completion.

12. Where a student fails to complete or undertake set homework tasks and no written explanation is received from parents, then the student may be required to complete these tasks at the teacher’s discretion.

13. The class teacher will notify parents if a student regularly fails to complete or present set homework tasks.

Policy approved: 2012

Review date: 2017