

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
DERRIMUT
HOME LEARNING POLICY

RATIONALE

At St Lawrence Primary School we believe that the school, the family and the students are partners in learning and that learning occurs in all places including the home. Learning at home means the full range of experiences that a student has outside the classroom, at home and in the community. This policy provides a framework to support students, families and teachers with the implementation and management of home learning.

This policy has been informed by:

- Analysis of current academic research

AIM

- To ensure that home learning provides positive and ongoing experiences that meet individual needs and interests.
- That families feel more connected with the learning taking place at school.
- To offer choices by having the **essential** home learning tasks which must be completed and other tasks which families can choose to do if they wish.
- To monitor and report on the essential task of daily home reading.
- To foster positive lifelong learning and study habits.

We believe that daily home reading has a positive impact on learning outcomes. Therefore, daily home reading will be the cornerstone of our approach to home learning.

IMPLEMENTATION

To implement our Home Learning policy

The school will:

- ensure the home learning policy is available on the school website and all families will be informed if the year level's home learning program at the beginning of each year
- assign relevant and meaningful learning activities that are linked to classroom learning and that are appropriate to the age and skill level of the student
- assign weekly/fortnightly home learning grids that have essential tasks and choice tasks, which are distributed to each student in hard copy, placed on the website, pushed out on Skoolbag App and/or Compass, each relevant Monday
- the classroom teacher will initial home learning to acknowledge sighting it
- not set home learning tasks in the first and last week of each term and during camp programs
- provide prep students will home learning **at a suitable time in term 1**

Students are required to:

- read every school day and document this reading
- ask questions if they are unclear about tasks
- share their learning at home with their families and ask for feedback, assistance and involvement
- as they get older, take responsibility for planning how and when they will complete home learning so that it is completed by the due date

- return their home learning books on the allocated Fridays

Families and caregivers are encouraged to:

- Show an interest in their child/ren's home learning and discuss it with them
- Ensure their child/ren has the time and place to complete home learning
- Ensure their child/ren completes the set tasks to the best of their ability
- Sign their child/ren's home learning and reminding them to take it to school on the relevant Friday
- Sign their child/ren's reading log/record sheet each weeknight
- Contact their child/ren's teacher if they have any concerns about home learning
- Helping their child/ren to balance the amount of time spent completing home learning, watching television, playing computer games and playing sports or engaging in recreational activities
- Encourage children in grades 5 & 6 to start to manage their own time and organisation of home learning so as to develop good study habits for secondary school

Students on Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs)

Some students in our school are provided with PLPs. These plans address the learning requirements of these students. These students are expected to do daily reading and other home learning tasks will be negotiated with the classroom teacher and family as needed.

Home Learning Year Level Expectation

Reading at home daily is an **essential** home learning task, which we expect students will complete and it is reported on. Students at St Lawrence will also be given home learning choices. These are optional; they are there for those families who require more home learning activities.

Year Level	ESSENTIAL	Choice (will be essential as it is needed)	Maximum Nightly Time Allocation Including reading
Prep	Home Reading (reading to an adult, by an adult or with an adult). 5-10 mins daily. Magic word practise	Maths, Inquiry, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities	15 mins
Grade 1	Home Reading (read aloud). 10 mins daily. Magic word practise and/or spelling practise	Maths, Inquiry, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities	15 mins
Grade 2	Home Reading (read aloud). 15 mins daily. Magic word practise and/or spelling practise	Maths, Inquiry, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities	35 mins
Grade 3	Home Reading (reading aloud & sustained silent reading for pleasure). 20 mins daily. Maths	Writing, spelling, Inquiry, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities	40 mins
Grade 4	Home Reading (reading aloud & sustained silent reading for pleasure). 25 mins daily. Maths	Writing, spelling, Inquiry, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities	50 mins

Grade 5	Home Reading (sustained period of reading for pleasure). 30 mins daily. And at least 2 other tasks as well as documenting work in student diary.	Writing, spelling, Inquiry, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities, workflow	1 hour
Grade 6	Home Reading (sustained period of reading for pleasure or research). 30 mins daily. Maths, workflow and at least 2 other tasks as well as documenting work in student diary.	Writing, spelling, Inquiry, CBL, Religion, PBL, emotional learning, social learning, special events, chores, family activities, workflow, SeeSaw reflections	1 hour

We strongly encourage students in Grade 5 & 6 to complete home learning in preparation for secondary school expectations.

References:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/learning/Pages/homework.aspx>

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/documents/about/research/readtoyoungchild.pdf>

<https://www.wcpo.com/brand-spotlight/how-reading-20-minutes-a-day-impacts-your-child-amazon-kindle>

<http://www.boysforward.com.au/product/homework-and-the-homework-grid-by-dr-ian-lillico/>

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the School Improvement Plan.