



St John's Primary School

Mitcham

Home Learning Policy

Rationale

The St John's School community believes that home learning should be encouraged as it assists students by complementing and reinforcing school learning, fosters lifelong learning and promotes organisational and independent learning skills.

Home learning should be purposeful to activate the students' own learning. It covers various curriculum areas, including reading, spelling and mathematics and considers individual student needs. Home learning improves retention and understanding. It can improve students' study skills and attitudes toward school, and teach students that learning can take place anywhere, not just in school. The benefits of home learning include fostering independence and responsibility. It can involve parents in the school process, enhancing their understanding of the school curriculum and allowing them to express positive attitudes toward the value of school success.

Aims

- ❖ To support and consolidate school learning
- ❖ To cater for individual learning needs and differentiation
- ❖ To develop independent learning habits
- ❖ To develop curiosity and responsibility for learning
- ❖ To engage families in student learning and strengthen the partnership between home and school
- ❖ To reinforce learning and facilitate mastery of specific skills.

Implementation

Home learning should always be meaningful and may be given for the following reasons:

- To reinforce skills and knowledge that the child is acquiring in the classroom
- To research and prepare for presentation of research and gathering project materials
- To provide interest and challenge
- May involve digital tools and a variety of resources

Home learning tasks are assigned at the beginning of the week and students have until the end of the week or fortnight to complete them.

Parents will sign the student diary and/or reading records to ensure that all tasks are completed and to communicate any reason why they have not been completed.



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Recommendation

All students should be reading every day at home for around 10 minutes.

Year Level	Tasks	Time
Prep	Reading and Spelling - reading of sight words	10-15 minutes - 4 times a week
Year 1/2	Reading, Maths Tasks and Spelling - variety of core learning areas	15-20 minutes - 4 times a week
Year 3/4	4 compulsory activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mathematics• Spelling• Writing• Reading 2 x free choice activities presented in matrix fortnightly	20-30 minutes - 4 times a week
Year 5/6	4 compulsory activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mathematics• Spelling• Writing• Reading Year 5 - 2 Free choice activities and 4 compulsory activities Year 6 - 3 Free choice activities and 5 compulsory activities presented in matrix fortnightly	30-40 minutes - 4 times a week

Home Learning Protocols

- ❖ At the beginning of the year parents and students will be informed about the role of home learning in their family life and discuss the expectations for the year so the school can support this effectively.
- ❖ Expectations will be set at the beginning of the year and clearly communicated with teachers, students and parents.
- ❖ Feedback about home learning may be verbal or written, from teachers, parents and students.
- ❖ Discussions with classroom teachers and parents will take place if agreed expectations for home learning are not met.



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- ❖ Parents should seek clarification from the class teacher if the student experiences issues with home learning tasks.
- ❖ Home learning activities will include some choice for students.
- ❖ Home learning tasks will include learning intentions and success criteria.
- ❖ Home learning should be encouraged by all involved and a positive experience for all.
- ❖ Students that complete homework activities to the best of their ability will receive a Dojo point or similar reward.

Date Developed/Reviewed	Ratified (date/who)	Date of Future Review
Developed March 2022 Reviewed May 2025	March 2022 - Staff and School Board May 2025 - SAC & Leadership Team	May 2027