

QUEEN OF APOSTLES SCHOOL, STAFFORD

HOMWORK POLICY



At Queen of Apostles School we value and believe:

- in our Catholic faith traditions
- that all learners are unique and special
- that all learners can experience success and that success is celebrated
- the learning is lifelong and an active process which is purposeful and meaningful
- that learning environments should be flexible, supportive and engaging

RATIONALE

Homework provides students with opportunities to consolidate their classroom learning. It develops behaviour patterns which encourage life-long learning beyond the classroom, such as, time management, self-direction and organisational skills. It also enables family members to be involved in a child's learning.

Homework strengthens and affirms the partnership in learning between parents and teachers. It provides parents with some insight into their child's progress and knowledge of what is being taught in the classroom. The setting and completion of homework tasks recognises the importance of family and leisure activities and the student's need to have a balanced lifestyle.

GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

- Homework should be an application of knowledge and skills and a revision of class content learnt at school. It should be purposeful and aim to consolidate or extend class work.
- It is expected that the time required for homework will increase through the years of schooling at Queen of Apostles, with the Queensland Government recommended average practice of:

Year 1-2:-	no more than 1 hour per week
Years 3-5:-	between 2-3 hours per week
Years 6-7:-	between 3-4 hours per week
- Homework tasks may include spelling, reading, maths, research and/or preparation for oral presentations.
- Queen of Apostles has a whole school approach to ensure consistency of homework practice.

The class teacher's role is:

- To provide appropriate homework which meets the diverse range of student needs giving consideration to time and content.
- To provide suggestions and strategies to assist students with their homework.
- To monitor, correct and give feedback as required for all homework submitted by students.
- To explain homework requirements and possible consequences for the non-completion of homework at the Parent Information evenings at the commencement of the school year and to include this information in Parent Newsletters.
- To ensure there is a consistent approach within year levels.

The parent / caregiver's role is:

- To encourage independence of homework completion and submission within the agreed timeframes.
- To provide a suitable environment, routine and time to support homework completion.
- To encourage and support some form of reading every night across all year levels. (E.g. home readers, reading to child, discussing texts with older children)
- To guide rather than complete their child's homework.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties their child may experience in completing set homework.
- To sight and initial their child's completed homework.
- To provide a letter to the class teacher explaining reasons why homework was not completed by their child.

The student's role is:

- To accept responsibility for completing homework to the best of their ability and to hand in homework at the appropriate time.
- To accept appropriate consequences as outlined at the Parent Information evening at the beginning of the school year
- When homework is not completed
- When homework is not completed on time
- When homework is of a poor standard.
- To seek assistance, from parents/caregivers or teachers if required.
- To take pride in completing their work accurately and neatly.
- To "have a go" at completing all set homework.