



## HOMEWORK POLICY

### **RATIONALE:**

At St Bede's we believe that homework is an effective strategy that supports and reinforces work being covered in the classroom. Homework develops independent learning skills and study habits. It encourages students to become responsible for their learning and develops time management skills.

Teachers will be firm, but flexible in the expectation that homework should be completed. Parents should provide a written explanation when homework is not completed.

### **GOALS:**

At St Bede's we aim to:

- provide a method of communication between school and home,
- promote the home-school partnership,
- develop effective time and resource management skills,
- develop self discipline and independent study skills,
- develop research skills,
- reinforce class work,
- provide time for revision and practice of skills,
- allow parents to have the opportunity to see what their children are doing in class and to watch their child's/children's learning progress,
- encourage parents to talk to their children about their school work.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

#### **HOMEWORK GUIDELINES**

##### **Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2**

Written work may be given to students in Kindergarten, Year One and Year Two to assist in the reinforcement of literacy and numeracy skills. It is expected that children will read aloud daily as part of their homework routine. Students have a reading diary to record their home reading.

##### **Years 3 and 4**

Set written homework that complements work already treated in class should not exceed 30 minutes. 15 minutes of daily reading is expected. The collection of homework is at the discretion of each individual class teacher.

##### **Years 5 and 6**

The time spent on homework should be between 40 minutes to 1 hour a day. As well as completing activities complementary to class work, students will be expected to complete assigned research tasks. They will be encouraged and assisted by teachers to organise their home study timetable to ensure work is completed within set time limits. Students are strongly encouraged to read each night.



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Diaries are provided for student use and as a tool for communication between home and school, and it is expected that parents will sign their child's diary each week.

### RESPONSIBILITY

The Teacher's role is to:

- inform parents and students about homework practices and expectations at the beginning of the year;
- provide interesting and challenging homework appropriate for the varying abilities in the class;
- provide a balance of open ended, creative and practice activities;
- give clear, explicit instructions and feedback;
- be consistent, yet flexible in their approach to homework;
- teach the necessary research and other skills to enable students to complete homework tasks;
- communicate with parents through the student's reading folder (Kinder – 2), the student's diary (years 6), or other appropriate means;
- mark all homework set for students.

The Parent's role is to:

- provide an environment for the child where supervision, encouragement and assistance are given;
- respect the child's knowledge and skills;
- communicate with the teacher through the student's reading folder (Kinder – 2), the student's diary (Year 6), or other appropriate means.

The Student's role is to:

- accept responsibility for the completion of homework, and finish tasks to the best of his/her ability;
- ask for assistance from teacher and family if needed;
- ensure the work is handed in at the agreed time for marking.

### THINGS TO BE CONSIDERED

Homework should:

- be interesting and challenging;
- include formal activities, such as practice and consolidation, writing tasks, reading tasks and research assignments;
- include informal activities, such as reading for enjoyment, discussion, art & craft and problem solving;
- be negotiated with the students and sometimes parents;
- be checked or marked;
- be handed out with some direction to students or parents as to what is expected;
- where applicable, be set on a contract basis.