**HOMEWORK POLICY ST JOSEPH’S**

**INTRODUCTION**
St Joseph’s school is a place of learning. The educational goals that are strived for, will reflect the Mission Statement and Gospel Values fundamental to St Joseph’s School. A range of learning opportunities is available to help students reach this outcome.

Homework is an important learning strategy which is used to obtain these outcomes. While important in assisting learning, homework will also develop skills needed to become a life long learner.

**MISSION STATEMENT**
“St Joseph’s School offers an holistic education within a Catholic Christian ethos whilst developing and valuing the uniqueness of the individual as we encourage each student to become a life long learner.”

The mission statement of St Joseph’s School stresses an holistic education, a goal that is supported by homework. It also stresses education within a Catholic Christian environment, which reflects the major role of families and home life in the education process. “Valuing the uniqueness of the individual” recognizes that there is variation between individual students and their families and how this impacts on homework. The skills and attitudes developed through homework supports the students to become life long learners.

**GOSPEL VALUES**
Respect, personal dignity, individual worth, freedom, integrity, trust, justice, understanding, forgiveness, honesty, care, compassion.

**DEFINITION**
Homework is work assigned by teachers to be completed by students outside of school hours in support of their ongoing learning.

**POLICY STATEMENT**
St Joseph’s recognizes the important role homework plays towards education. Homework should be a positive experience enhancing learning.

The important steps in the homework cycle will include:
- Setting of homework by teachers
- Performance of homework by students, including parental input where appropriate
- Homework review by teachers
Homework should be set at a level that is appropriate for the age, educational level, and individual circumstances of the student. Whilst homework should not be done by parents, parental input is vital in providing a positive effect on learning.

**CONSEQUENCES**

St Joseph’s School will develop processes and procedures outlining homework expectations and review.

The positive performance of homework provides
1. a strong learning tool
2. reinforcement of learnt work
3. development of habits that will assist in becoming a life long learner
4. opportunity for interaction between parents and students

Where there is concern about the amount or content of homework, students and or parents should discuss the expectations with teachers. St Joseph’s teaching staff are committed to the educational goals outlined in the mission statement and this commitment extends to early resolution of difficulties related to homework.

Above all, homework should be a positive learning experience supporting St Joseph’s school based program and enhancing the home family environment.

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Bob Knight                         Graham Hitchener
Principal                          Board Chairman

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