



Our Lady of Good Counsel

## HOMWORK POLICY

### RATIONALE

At Our Lady of Good Counsel School we believe that homework reflects the perspectives and expectations of students, parents and teachers. Homework is a part of the learning process which takes learning beyond the classroom and promotes lifelong learning skills, habits and attitudes.

Homework consolidates classroom learning, is purposeful and encourages independence. It fosters lifelong skills of organisation and responsibility. Homework is a shared responsibility between parents, students and teachers.

### AIMS

At OLGC we aim to develop in students:

- a passion for learning
- independent work habits
- research skills
- time management skills
- an ownership for their work
- an understanding that learning takes place in different environments

### IMPLEMENTATION

At OLGC students will be:

- supported with activities appropriate to their level and inclusive of individual needs.
- provided with opportunities to review and discuss their homework as necessary
- encouraged to read and keep a journal during periods of extended absenteeism, such as family holidays. Teachers will not provide homework during these times.

### RECOMMENDED TIME & POSSIBILITIES FOR HOMEWORK

| <b>Prep - 10 minutes</b>  | <b>Year 1 and 2 - 15 minutes</b>   |
|---|--|
| Daily reading (read aloud to an adult)<br>Sight words<br><i>Parent involvement expected: high</i>   | Daily reading (read aloud to an adult)<br>Sight words (if required)<br><i>Parent involvement expected: high to moderate</i>  |
| <b>Year 3 and 4<br/>20 mins. + 10mins. Reading</b>  | <b>Year 5 and 6<br/>30 mins + 10mins. Reading</b>  |
| Daily reading (read aloud to an adult)<br>Reading response<br>Maths/Religion/Speaking and Listening<br>Completion of class tasks<br>Inquiry – independent research<br>Online activities<br><i>Parent involvement expected: moderate</i> | Daily reading (read aloud to an adult)<br>Reading response<br>Maths/Religion/Speaking and Listening<br>Completion of class tasks<br>Inquiry – independent research<br>Online activities<br><i>Parent involvement expected: moderate to low</i> |

## **EXPECTATIONS**

### **Parents**

Parents and caregivers can assist their children by:

- encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework
- setting an example by reading themselves
- contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any issues in relation to homework
- assisting them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources
- encouraging independence to complete homework and offering support when needed
- assisting them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework and engaging in leisure activities
- discussing homework in their first language, where English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to their previous experiences

### **Teachers**

Teachers can assist students by:

- setting regular homework to assist students establish a home study routine
- setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks related to class work that are appropriate to the students' learning needs
- provide tasks that are consistent across the year level
- giving students enough time to complete homework, taking into account home obligations and extracurricular activities
- monitoring homework, providing timely and practical feedback and support
- making effective use of communication logs and/or diaries.
- assisting students develop the organisational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning
- ensuring that parents are aware of the school's homework policy
- support parents to become active partners in homework

### **Students**

Students can experience homework success by:

- taking responsibility for completing and submitting homework by the due date
- asking for assistance if necessary before the due date
- using a timetable / diary to facilitate organisation

### **Consequences**

Children are sometimes not able to complete their homework for many reasons. If this is the case a note from a parent or guardian will be sufficient for a child to be excused for not having completed their homework. If no note is presented the following consequences will be applied.

Step 1: Warning (reminder to complete homework by the next day).

Step 2: Homework completed during break time under the supervision of a teacher.

Step 3: Parents notified

**EVALUATION** Implementation of the school's Homework policy will be reviewed as part of the three year review cycle. Reviewed February 2017

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