



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.

POSSIBILITIES FOR HOMEWORK

- Reading
- Take home Maths book and Mathematics tasks
- Spelling
- Oral language (Show and Tell/Speaking and Listening)
- R.E.
- Completion of class tasks
- Inquiry – independent research
- Online activities

RECOMMENDED TIME

Homework will generally consist of four sessions of:-

- Prep - 10 minutes a day.
- Grades 1 & 2 - 15 minutes a day.
- Grades 3 & 4 - 20 minutes a day.
- Grades 5 & 6 - 30 minutes a day.

This time allocation may be broken up and distributed across the week.

EXPECTATIONS

Parents and caregivers

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 them to complete their homework independently and if needed support can be given
- 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
- giving students enough time to complete homework, taking into account home obligations and extracurricular activities
- monitoring homework and 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 and caregivers 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

EVALUATION Implementation of the school's Homework policy will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed March 2013