



**MAMRE ANGLICAN SCHOOL**

**STUDENT HOMEWORK POLICY**

*Reviewed 2019*



## Aim

The aim of homework activities is to support classroom learning. It involves practising the knowledge and skills that are relevant for students at both their stage and ability level of learning.

## Guidelines

### 1. *Junior School*

- Students should be given homework appropriate to their stage of development. Homework should consist of literacy and mathematics activities combined with tasks from other relevant KLAs:
  - Early Stage 1 / Stage 1 = 5 - 15 minutes per night
  - Stages 2 = 20-30 minutes per night.
  - Stage 3 = 30 minutes per night
- If teachers wish to set project or research-based homework, normal homework requirements should be adjusted so as to keep within recommended time guidelines.

### 2. *Senior School*

- All students are required to do regular home study. Good patterns of home study can be of great benefit in the later years of schooling. Whilst some periods of the year will be busier than others, the maximum recommended time of homework is as follows:
  - Year 7 – 1 hour on average per night
  - Year 8 – 1 hour on average per night
  - Year 9 – 1 ½ hours on average per night
  - Year 10 – 1 ½ hours on average per night
  - Year 11 – 2 ½ hours on average per night
  - Year 12 – 3 hours on average per night

Homework activities should be clearly communicated to students and parents, including:

- expectations for completion,
- dates for submission,
- procedures to be followed if students are unable to complete set homework tasks,
- communication of consequences, if homework requirements are not met
- Senior School students should write all homework tasks in their diary on the day that they are due

## Accommodating Different Student Abilities

Consideration should be made for the different ability levels of students within the class/group. Teachers should ensure that set homework is at a standard suitable for the students in their class. This may mean having different spelling lists or activities, having different mathematics activities or project tasks or adjusting the amount of work set. The times recommended above should remain consistent and allow for different student abilities.

## Processes for Specific Circumstances

### 1. **Parents who request that their child does not receive / complete homework tasks**

Teachers are to communicate and reinforce:

- the benefits to student learning of completing homework tasks
- how homework tasks reinforce classroom learning
- how homework completion improves classroom performance

If the parent still refuses that their child complete homework activities, the classroom teacher requests that the parent communicates this in writing stating their reasons and the time period during which they do not wish their child to complete homework tasks. This letter is then placed on the student's enrolment file.

## **2. Time allocated for students to complete homework tasks**

- Junior School
  - Teachers should give students a minimum of 5 days to complete homework tasks that are completed as part of a regular classroom routine, e.g. set weekly spelling homework. If teachers are setting homework activities that require research or the purchase of particular items e.g. for a collage, then a minimum of 2 weeks should be provided. This allows working families adequate time to assist their child in preparing for their project.
- Senior School
  - The time allocated for homework tasks will depend on the purpose of the homework. If it is to practise skills taught that day in preparation for the following days lessons, teachers may set tasks to be completed overnight. Research or tasks that will take longer to complete should be set with an appropriate time limit as determined by the classroom teacher.

## **3. Homework not handed in**

- Junior School
  - Teachers are to send notification to parents if a student has not submitted their homework for 2 consecutive weeks or if there is a repeated pattern of not submitting homework tasks. If a child still continues to not submit homework tasks without a note from their parent then the classroom teacher may on the 3rd or subsequent occasion remove the child from playground time to either complete homework in the library or to miss out on playtime by sitting in a designated area for up to but no longer than 20 minutes of the lunch break.
- Senior School
  - Teachers check homework tasks have been completed and keep a record of completion. If a student is not completing homework tasks the teacher may contact the parents by telephone or via the student diary or other means. Teachers may also issue a lunch detention for the student to complete the set work.
  - Assessment task submission is subject to the School's Assessment Policy.

## **4. Homework handed in incomplete**

- Junior School
  - Teachers may request that the student completes their homework at lunchtime in the library or have the student miss out on playtime by sitting in a designated area of the playground for up to but no longer than 20 minutes of the lunch break.
- Senior School
  - Teachers check homework tasks have been completed and keep a record of completion. If a student is not completing homework tasks the teacher may contact the parents by telephone or via a 'letter of concern'. Teachers may also issue a lunch detention for the student to complete the set work.
  - Parents are encouraged to write a note or write in the Senior School Student Diary to communicate that their child is unable to complete set homework activities. Teachers will respect the parental communication and not provide any consequence or make any negative comment to the student regarding homework not completed. Teachers may contact, either in

writing or by phone, the parents to further discuss the communication or to seek an understanding of if/when the homework task will be completed.

**5. Parents who request that their child receives additional, harder or extension homework**

- Teachers will reinforce the Schools agreed time allocation for homework activities. Teachers may recommend that the parents consider increased reading time for their child, independent research of areas of interest or social, sporting or musical activities that would aid the development of the student as a whole, not purely their academic development. Any additional academic work would need to be set, administered and corrected by parents if they wanted to pursue academic homework activities beyond these School guidelines.

**Questions or Concerns regarding homework activities**

If teaching staff have any questions or concerns regarding a student's homework completion or any parent correspondence they may discuss the matter and seek guidance from the relevant Head of School, or the Principal.

Parents should discuss the matter with their child's teacher. If, after such discussion, they wish to discuss the matter further, they may contact the relevant Head of School or the Principal via reception to make a time to discuss the matter.

Homework is intended by the School to assist the development of the student as they progress through the educational process. It is meant to be a pleasant and rewarding part of the student's educational journey. Teaching staff, parents and students need to work cooperatively to ensure that this is the case for each student within the School community.