

St Dympna's School

Homework Statement

At St Dympna's School student learning and student welfare is at the core of all that we do.

Our policy, regarding school work that is done at home (homework) has been developed in consultation with the Teaching and Learning Team and other school staff. It is based on current research findings on homework literature from around the world.

<http://visible-learning.org/2014/09/john-hattie-interview-bbc-radio-4/>

http://www.ccl-cca.ca/pdfs/SystematicReviews/SystematicReview_HomeworkApril27-2009.pdf

<http://marklemessurier.com.au/main/articles/homework-does-it-matter.shtml>

Researchers conclude that for primary students, there is no evidence that homework advances academic performance. (Cooper, 1989; Walker, 2011) The general consensus from research into the setting of 'homework' is that there is very negligible, positive effect for students of primary school age, with the exception of the development of a love for reading and practice of reading strategies.

Therefore, considering this research, at St Dympna's School, 'homework' – the school work that is done at home will consist, for the majority of the recommended time allocation, of reading.

Work that is done at home should be mostly interactive and foster discussion between child and parent about concepts and ideas.

Information will be provided about ways you can develop a shared reading experience with your child. As they are developed they will be uploaded to the school's Parent Portal.

The following table describes what is considered acceptable for work done at home for different year levels.

Years	Homework
Prep - Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not to exceed 15 minutes per day• Will mainly consist of daily reading to, with and by parents/carer or older sibling
Year 3 – 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not to exceed 20 minutes per day• Will mainly consist of daily reading to, with and by parents/carer or older sibling• May include enabling of the extension of class work by practicing skills or the gathering of extra information or materials
Year 5 – 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not to exceed 30 minutes per day• Should include daily independent reading and may also include reading to, with and by parents/carer or older sibling• May include enabling of the extension of class work by practicing skills or the gathering of extra information or materials

Evaluation

Evaluation of the homework policy will be on a bi-annual basis for relevancy and effectiveness.

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Suggestions for other activities that may enhance the development of learners

Year levels	Suggestions
Prep – Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• linking concepts with familiar activities such as shopping, preparation of food, local environment and family outings• conversations about what is happening at school• discussion about learning dispositions• Discussion about learning goals set in Literacy
Year 3 – 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As above +
Year 5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As above +

Others Ways in which Parents can help children to Learn

- Read to your child and allow he/she to share his/her reading with you;
- Join the local library;
- Talk to your child about the work he/she is doing in school;
- Watch children's television programmes with your child and talk to him/her about them;
- Visit local museums, libraries and places of interest;
- Attend talks in relation to educational matters organised in the school;
- Monitor the amount of time spent by children watching T.V., playing on play-stations, social media sites etc;
- Ensure that children get to bed early on school nights