Ways for Parents and Carers to Assist

The following conditions can support the development of good homework/study practices:

- **Structure/routines** – balance family, school and extra curricular commitments

- **Time/place** – ensure adequate time is allocated to complete set tasks and that children have a suitable working area and equipment

- **Noise level** – aim for minimum distractions from radios, TV etc.

- **Parent/carer support** – provide assistance and encouragement

- **Communication** – maintain close communication between home and school via diaries/notes/phone calls or interviews and surveys
Reasons for setting homework:
- To develop study habits and routines
- To encourage independence, responsibility and organisation
- To learn management skills as there will be increased expectations on students to manage their time effectively
- To support regular communication between home and school
- To foster interaction between parent and child in the learning process
- To give parents/carers insight into their child’s learning
- To reinforce school work by practising skills, eg. reading, spelling, tables, etc.
- To encourage the use of out of school resources and activities, eg. local libraries, interviews and surveys

HOMEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS PER WEEK

Homework activities may include:
- Completing work
- Planning oral presentations
- Shared reading
- Current events
- Japanese
- Music
- Musical instrument practice
- Critical TV viewing
- Physical activity
- Quiz questions
- Art activities
- Newspaper reading
- Finding things
- Using community resources
- Interviews/surveys
- Experiments

The following are recommended times for homework per school week:

- Reception........... 30 minutes (approx)
- Year 1............... 30 minutes (approx)
- Year 2.............. 40 minutes

Year 3 to year 7:
5 minutes x the year level by 4 nights per week
i.e Year 3
3 x5 =15 , by 4 nights = 60 minutes

Depending on the learning programme homework may be set nightly or weekly.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Students:
- write homework in diary (depending on year level)
- establish a routine of homework and leisure time
- take home necessary equipment and books
- return homework to appropriate teachers by deadlines
- accept consequences for homework not completed

Teachers:
Expectations to be communicated to parents at the beginning of the year.
- programme time for completing diaries (depending on year level)
- clarify explanations and expectations
- provide homework which is relevant, purposeful and meets time allocations
- mark and return homework
- communicate with parents and students if expectations are not being met

Parents/Carers:
- show interest in their child’s learning by checking diaries, work and talking with them as appropriate
- supervise and assist their child in completing tasks
- provide time and resources for their child to do their best

It is recognised that students and families have commitments/ reasons on occasions when homework is unable to be completed.
Teachers need to be informed of this via the student’s diary or communication book.