Preamble

At Our Lady’s School, homework is considered to be an integral part of learning and personal development. It is valued as a personal study habit essential to student success and assisting in building self discipline, personal responsibility and independent action. Homework provides parents with a direct means of supporting the home – school partnership by providing the opportunity to observe student progress and encourage positive attitudes towards education.

Rationale

Homework enables students to consolidate daily class work and practice routines using a variety of purposeful and structured activities in a positive and supportive atmosphere. Parental involvement is imperative to the success of homework; hence communication between school and home is essential. Homework should not be burdensome or impinge unduly on family activity.

Values

At Our Lady’s School we value and support the learning journey of all learners. We value just and respectful partnerships with families. Persistence, self-discipline, responsibility and commitment to excellence will be reflected in an enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding homework experience for students, parents, caregivers and teachers.

Statement

The habit of homework is beneficial to all children. It will be applied consistently across all year levels and will be appropriate to the age and ability of students.
Implementation

1. Homework expectations will be discussed at the beginning of each school year and parents provided with / directed to Our Lady’s School homework policy.
2. The purpose of the academic component of homework is to reinforce concepts covered in class and to research and prepare for forthcoming topics.
3. Homework is assigned according to the needs and abilities of students.
4. Reading for a variety of purposes, including being read to, is an essential part of learning and will be a regular part of the homework routine in ALL year levels.
5. Teachers will monitor the completion of homework and provide appropriate feedback on a regular basis.
6. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children are provided with a place to complete homework tasks, are supervised and have time set aside during the week to complete tasks. It is the parent's responsibility to contact the class teacher if their child is experiencing difficulties with homework.
7. Students responsibilities are to complete homework in an appropriate place within the allotted time, hand in completed homework on time and accept consequences for incompletion or failure to submit completed tasks.
8. Homework will be assigned according to the needs, abilities and age level of students. The following daily time bands are a guide:
   - Prep – Up to 10 mins
   - Yrs 1 – 3 15 – 20 min  Yrs 4 – 7 20 – 40 min
9. Students in yrs 1 – 3 will receive a homework sheet; students in yrs 4 – 6 will make use of the school diary to record homework tasks.

Reflection Materials

Homework Policies from a variety of diocesan schools
Our Lady’s School Mission Statement 2013
Our Lady’s School Curriculum Framework 2005
Diocesan Learning Framework 2010

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