



Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School

Live, Love & Learn

RE: Homework Policy Update, May 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

How will homework be provided to my child?

Classroom teachers will provide homework to all students via Class Dojo or Google Classrooms.

How do I contact my child's teacher about homework?

To contact your child's teacher regarding homework, please send a Dojo message or email. If a face-to-face meeting is required, please organise a suitable time prior by requesting a meeting via Dojo or email. A friendly reminder that between 8.35am and 8.50am when students are arriving at school is not a suitable time to be discussing homework or other matters.

What happens if my child does not complete homework? Will my child be penalised?

Galilee's new homework policy emphasises home and school connections, real life connections, and relevant activities for student learning. We understand that all home lives are different and that sometimes homework cannot be completed. Students will not be penalised for homework not completed, however it is encouraged that children complete homework as provided.

I think homework is a waste of time, what now?

Galilee's new homework policy was informed by parenting guardian, student, staff input and current research on homework. As a school, we believe this policy creates a balance between school and home life allowing students to pursue extra-curricular interests whilst relating their school learning to the real world. This homework policy also creates a strong link between home and school life. Therefore, we encourage families to follow the homework policy and complete homework provided.

The policy states 'based on 4 days a week' - does that mean we can do more or less?

As this new homework policy creates links between home and school life and allows students more time for other interests to be explored, we believe four days a week is a good balance. We understand that all family's lives are different and therefore some families may choose to do more or less days of homework based on the needs of their family.

I know my child is anxious about homework, what should I do?

Please reassure your child that their feelings are valid and work through their anxiety with them. Should you require further assistance please contact your child's classroom teacher.



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Am I expected to sit with my child every night to do homework?

The type of homework set will determine how much parent input is required each night. We do recommend parents engage in homework tasks with their child/ren and encourage parents to give timely feedback to their child.

The policy states that parents are encouraged to give timely feedback. What does this mean? How do I give feedback?

Research shows that timely feedback is most effective for student learning. Timely feedback from parents can be as simple as going through a task with your child and checking that they have completed the task satisfactorily. This may also be as simple as listening to your child read and providing feedback on pronunciation or intonation whilst reading. If a student waits until the end of a homework cycle (usually the end of a week) to receive feedback, it is often too late for an impact on learning.

What should I do if my child is struggling with the homework?

If your child is struggling with homework, parents are encouraged to try to assist where possible. Should you require further assistance please contact your child's classroom teacher.

What if my child is making a lot of mistakes, what should I think and say?

Making mistakes is all part of our learning experience. When your child makes a mistake in their homework, it is important to create a positive and supportive environment. Instead of simply telling your child what they did wrong, it is important to help them understand their mistake. This can help them learn from the mistake and avoid making the same mistake in the future. Encourage your child to explain their thought process and how they arrived at their answer. If your child is struggling to correct their mistakes, provide them with guidance and support. When your child does correct their mistake, celebrate their progress and acknowledge their hard work and effort. This can help boost their confidence and motivation, and encourage them to continue learning and improving. Should you require further assistance please contact your child's classroom teacher.

What's the best way to set up a routine and homework schedule?

Setting up a routine and homework schedule is an individual choice for each family. We understand family life is different and therefore can only provide suggestions of what may work. It may be beneficial to create a routine of children completing their reading component of homework before bedtime. Some families find it beneficial to set their children up to complete their homework tasks whilst dinner is being prepared. Tasks set are not meant to be onerous and are encouraged to be incorporated into everyday activities.



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Is the teacher going to correct homework?

Not all set learning tasks will be corrected by the classroom teachers, however, classroom teachers may engage in discussions about homework and relate it to classroom learning. Research shows that timely feedback is most effective for student learning. Research shows that timely feedback is most effective for student learning. If a student waits until the end of a homework cycle (usually the end of a week) to receive feedback, it is often too late for an impact on learning.

If my child really doesn't want to do it, should I force them to do it?

We do not recommend forcing any child to do homework, however, we encourage parents to talk with their children about the benefits of homework and how it can help them in the real world. Should you require further assistance please contact your child's classroom teacher.

If I want to do more with my child? What should I do more that will be helpful?

As a family you may decide that you want to do more homework activities or activities that will assist your child develop their skills for the real world, as an example, we suggest activities such as recounting family events, cooking dinner together as a family, engaging in extracurricular activities, going to the park and engaging in physical activity, building and making with recycled goods, building and making with Lego and other building materials. Encourage independence and organisational skills such as laying out the correct uniform for the day, packing their swimming bag for swimming, packing lunches etc.

Some tips for families:

Avoid doing the work for your child: Some parents may be tempted to do their child's homework for them, either because they want to ensure that it is completed to a high standard, or because they feel their child is struggling. However, this does not allow the child to learn and develop the skills they need to succeed on their own. We encourage parents to work with their child and to contact their teacher should they need further assistance.

Provide support for your child: Galilee's new homework policy encourages parents to be engaged with the child's homework and provide support when required.



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Establish a routine: Establishing a regular routine for homework can help your child develop good study habits and make homework feel more manageable. If homework is left until the last minute or done sporadically, it can lead to stress and anxiety for both the child and the parent. We understand that all family and home life is different so please tailor this to suit your family.

Communicate with the teacher: It's important to communicate with your child's teacher about their homework and any difficulties they may be having. This can help the teacher provide targeted support and guidance to your child, and can also help you as a parent understand what is expected of your child.

Create a positive and supportive environment: It's important to create a positive and supportive environment in general, but of course surrounding homework. Try to provide positive reinforcement and praise for their efforts and accomplishments.

Overall, the key to effective homework is to strike a balance between providing support and guidance to your child while also allowing them to take ownership of their work and develop their own skills and abilities. It is important for parents to create a positive and supportive environment when helping their children with homework. Encouraging children to learn from their mistakes and providing guidance and support can help them develop important problem-solving and critical thinking skills, as well as build their confidence and motivation to succeed.