Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools

St Catherine's Homework Policy

St Catherine's Moorabbin is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS). This policy is a School Based Policy pertaining exclusively to St Catherine's School Moorabbin.

Rationale:

Homework provided by the school aims to support students in revising and practicing skills that consolidate classroom learning, while also strengthening the connection between home and school. It encourages independence, responsibility, and the development of organisational skills. Research by Hattie (2009), the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF, 2018), and Alfie Kohn (2006) suggests that homework has a minimal impact on academic growth, especially for younger students, and that extracurricular activities and engaging learning experiences provide greater benefits.

Values and Beliefs:

We recognise that each family is unique and will make decisions regarding their child's participation in homework based on what is best for both the child and the family.

Parents are the first educators of their children, and the school's role is to partner with parents to support their child's education.

Learning is complex, and practising skills helps reinforce understanding while also building good study habits.

Regular reading at home fosters reading skills, which in turn supports overall learning.

When parents engage with homework, it helps them better understand classroom learning.

Implementation:

Classroom teachers will ensure that homework is meaningful, purposeful, and connected to both classroom learning and real-life experiences.

Classroom teachers will assign homework suitable for each year level.

Classroom teachers will distribute homework weekly via hard copy, Seesaw, or Google Classroom.

Classroom teachers will provide feedback and corrections when deemed appropriate.

Students are expected to complete homework that demonstrates quality work.

Students are to seek clarification and ask for help, if needed, before the homework due date.

Students are expected to submit their homework to the classroom teacher by the due date and request an extension if needed.

Parents are responsible for reminding students to complete homework, asking questions about their homework, and engaging in related conversations.

Parents are to communicate with the teacher if they have any concerns about homework.

Parents must sign homework to acknowledge completion or inform the teacher if needed.

If your family chooses to take a holiday during school term, teachers will not provide additional work beyond what is shared online for the class.

When your child is unwell, their health and rest are our main concern. For students in Years 3-6, homework will be available on Google Classroom. Please note that no extra tasks will be set beyond what is shared there.

Junior: Prep - Year 2

- Daily reading experiences.
- Families will be informed of the weekly spelling words, and students can practise them as needed.
- One activity per week, based on real life experiences related to either English, maths, STEM or Religious Education.

Middle Years: Year 3 and Year 4
- Daily reading.
- Families will be informed of the weekly spelling words, and students can practise them as needed.
- One activity per week, based on real life experiences related to maths.
- One activity per week, based on real life experiences related to either English, STEM, Religious Education, Wellbeing or Health.
- An ongoing investigation or project may be set instead, to complement classroom learning.

Senior Years: Year 5 and Year 6
- Daily reading.
- Families will be informed of the weekly spelling words, and students can practise them as needed.
- One activity per week, based on real life experiences related to maths.
- One activity per week, based on real life experiences related to either English, STEM, Religious Education, Wellbeing or Health.
- An ongoing investigation or project may be set instead, to complement classroom learning.

Year Level guidelines:

The table below shows suggested timings based on 4 days a week of homework. We are aware of family and extracurricular commitments and understand that each day is different. Please work with your child so that homework is manageable with home life.

	Reading per day	All other activities based on 4 days per week
	5 minutes	5 minutes
	10 minutes	10 minutes
	10 minutes	10 minutes
	15 minutes	10 minutes
	15 minutes	10 minutes
	20 minutes	15 minutes
	20 minutes	15 minutes

Evaluation:

This policy will be monitored and reviewed by the staff and School Advisory Council in accordance with the School Improvement Plan or as required.