

## Preamble

At St Mary's, we recognise that families hold a range of views and expectations when it comes to homework. While some parents value the opportunity for additional learning at home, others are mindful of the need for children to rest and spend quality time with family after school hours. We understand and respect this diversity.

Our approach to homework is informed by educational research, which suggests that homework at the primary level is most effective when it is purposeful, reinforces classroom learning, and is age-appropriate. We have developed this policy with the aim of striking a balance between setting clear, consistent expectations and allowing flexibility to meet the needs of individual families.

This policy outlines our core homework expectations for all students, while also providing optional extension opportunities for families and students who wish to engage further. Our goal is to support learning in a way that is meaningful, manageable, and inclusive.

## Homework Time Allocation

YEAR LEVEL	DURATION Average per school day	TYPE OF HOMEWORK
Prep	10-15 minutes	Reading (every night): Sounds (sequenced through UFLI), CVC words, Heart Words and Readers
Year 1/2	15 minutes	Reading (every night): ability-based books UFLI task sheets, accompanied by a resource to extend word and sound knowledge.
Year 3/4	Up to 20 minutes	Matrix containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading (every night): 10-15 minutes</li> <li>• Maths task</li> <li>• Inquiry/Religion task: alternate weeks</li> </ul> Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Eggspress</li> <li>• Times tables practice</li> </ul>
Year 5/6	Between 20 and 30 minutes	Document containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading (every night): 20 minutes</li> <li>• Maths, Literacy, Religion/Inquiry: 1 task per week</li> </ul> Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Eggspress and My Numeracy</li> </ul>

## Opting out of Homework

If you believe homework may not be suitable for your child, we encourage you to speak with their classroom teacher to discuss your concerns and work toward a mutual understanding.