

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

Review in 2014

Homework will be set to challenge students at their individual level to enhance individual's learning opportunities. [The guidelines should be read in conjunction with the school's **Assessment and Reporting Policy**].

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Ensure a suitable place is available for students to work quietly with minimal distractions and:
 - Check that work is completed and the "Time Taken" is entered in the diary
 - Sign the diary weekly with checks on time taken in individual subjects.
 - Advise teachers via the diary of homework difficulties.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Students will:

- Make a reasonable attempt to complete the homework set.
- Catch up work required due to absence
- If unable to do or complete homework set, obtain an explaining note from parents to give to the teacher the next day.
- Use diary to record homework set and time taken to complete each homework task.
- Include reading and general vocab learning and instrumental practice as part of extra homework.
- Take the opportunity to spend extra time on extension work/integrated studies

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers will:

- Set and assess homework in accordance with the policy
- Consider learning aspects that support the constructivist aspect of SACSA
- Communicate information home and encourage caregivers to be involved
- Consider the value of extension work: not just complete tasks from class time

TIME ALLOCATION

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Homework will be set:

- To reinforce learning at school
- To develop sound study habits
- To complete work from class time

Reading is encouraged at home each night.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Years 6, 7, 8 & 9 will be set homework per Learning Area per week beginning at approximately 30 minutes for Year 6 students. This amounts to 210 minutes per week of homework time at Year 6 with increasing time dependent on the requirements of the more senior year levels. Additional homework may be set under various circumstances. Homework

time may vary from week to week depending on the nature of coursework being completed at the time.

THE HOMEWORK GRID.

This runs in conjunction with and as a part of the homework timetable. The key considerations of the homework grid are:

- Development of time management skills
- Active participation in the local community
- Development of interpersonal skills.

It acknowledges a variety of points about student out of school commitments that:

- Students do spend time productively in activities in the community such as part time work and sports club involvement.
- Students also have family responsibilities that challenge them to manage their time effectively.
- These various “extra” activities that students engage in represent their continued learning outside school time and help to develop skills in communication, literacy, numeracy and relationships.

It is also important to note these activities help to build values such as a commitment to community and family responsibilities.

Students are asked to record up to one hour a week of family/community commitments on their homework grid, which is placed in their diary and is an additional record of learning.

The contents of the grid are used to help students develop a record of their skills and as further material for their transition folios, which students develop in Middle School.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Subject	Arts P.E.	Science	Society and environment Agriculture	English Maths	
Community	CFS	Basketball practice	Table Tennis		Babysitting
Family		Feed pets		Vacuuming	

A sample homework grid

There are no specifically set times for particular subjects; some subjects may prepare homework that is to be accomplished over a week, assignment tasks may be ongoing. Parents are encouraged to monitor the student diary to remain abreast of work required.

SENIOR SCHOOL

In recognition of the increased flexible learning in the senior school there is no set policy or structure to the homework process.

Students are strongly encouraged, in conjunction with their Home Group teacher and subject teachers, to work in the coordination of a successful homework/study program that extends across all learning areas.