



LUMEN CHRISTI
PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME ACTIVITIES POLICY

RATIONALE

The importance of play, of family relationships and of beyond-the-school activities is recognised and highly valued, given that children spend up to eight hours per day on school related activities.

School-planned activities completed at home enrich the learning that takes place at school. School-planned home activities provide further opportunities for parents and their children to interact productively to consolidate the students' education.

We recognise that parents, teachers and children form a partnership in the undertaking of home activities that have been set.

POLICY STATEMENT

At Lumen Christi the setting of home activities that complements classroom learning, without placing undue duress on the students or the families, is approved as valid. Home activities need to be purposeful and appropriate to the students as learners in their whole-life experiences.

GUIDELINES

POLICY GUIDELINES	GUIDELINE INDICATORS
<p>Parents' understandings about home activities expectations need to be clear from the beginning of the year.</p> <p>Parents have opportunities to be in ongoing communication with teachers regarding home activities.</p>	<p>Parents are informed about home activities expectations at the beginning of the year at the Parent Information Sessions, in Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences and through written communication at appropriate intervals throughout the school year.</p> <p>Specific home activities expectations are communicated in writing to parents.</p> <p>Junior primary (Yrs F-2) students keep a home reading journal in which ongoing communication between teachers and parents takes place.</p> <p>Students in middle and upper primary classes (Yrs 3-6) use home activities diaries in which ongoing communication between teachers and parents takes place.</p> <p>Teachers will check and sign diaries at least once a week.</p>

<p>Every assistance is to be provided to students to enable them to complete their home activities.</p>	<p>Any compulsory home activities are to be accompanied by sufficient support material/ resources for the student to complete the work confidently and successfully.</p>
<p>Home activities will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be appropriate to the student’s skill level and age. • Be interesting, challenging and where appropriate, open ended • Be balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities • Be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum • Be sighted by teachers with feedback and support provided when and where appropriate • Be consistent in content and time across year levels. 	<p>In the Years F – 2, home activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mainly consists of reading on a daily basis; reading by, with and to parents/caregivers and spelling and Number practice (eg. counting) <p>In Years 3 - 6, home activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • includes reading on a daily basis (independent or not, depending on the level of the student) and spelling and Number practice (e.g. tables)
<p>Time to be allocated to home activities should not exceed the maximum guidelines, as set by Department of Education Training and Early Childhood.</p>	<p>For children in Yr. F-2: up to 10 minutes daily. For children in Yr. 3-6: 2 hours spread over the fortnight. Reading is considered a daily habit and is not included in this time allocation</p>
<p>It is recognised that parents and students share the responsibility, in partnership with the teacher, for the completion of set home activities.</p>	<p>Parents / caregivers can assist in the successful completion of home activities by;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking an active interest in the child’s home activities. • Supporting the child in setting aside time and a space for home activities. • Assisting teachers to monitor home activities by signing completed work and diaries and be aware of the amount of work set. • Communicating with teachers any concerns about the nature of home activities or the child’s approach to home activities. • Informing teacher if there is any extenuating circumstances that result in home activities not being completed. <p>Teachers will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collect and correct set home activities. • Contact parents if homework activities are not completed and there has been no explanation given.

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Guidelines, 2013.
Lumen Christi Homework Policy, 2008
Reviewed and Ratified: July 2014
Review Year: 2019