



TRINITY LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Description: HOMEWORK GUIDELINES: COTLEW STREET CAMPUS

SCOPE:

Trinity Lutheran College expects the students to fulfil their responsibilities as learners to consolidate their learning particularly from Year 3 onwards.

As the expectations of students in homework completion are age-appropriate, consequently separate developmentally related homework guidelines are available for students across campuses of the college.

STUDENT GUIDELINES:

Homework is a significant and important part of the teaching and learning process. The following guidelines will help students, parents and teachers to be clear about the purpose and expectations of homework throughout the learner profile.

Inquirers

Students have opportunities to inquire further into areas of interest, conduct research and investigate ideas from classroom learning.

Thinkers

As thinkers children engage in tasks which relate to the learning occurring within the classroom, allowing students to consolidate and share their knowledge with their family.

Risk Taker

Children should continually aim to try a variety of tasks on the homework grid to assist in the development of a confident attitude when approaching new things. Suggestions are welcome for new ideas for homework tasks and ways to present ideas.

Balanced

Homework aims to develop a balanced student through learning experiences that cater to a variety of learning styles and encourage the development of the whole child.

Communication

The connection between home and school is vital. Homework is one way for parents to be aware of the learning that is taking place in class. It is important for parents to communicate with teachers if they have homework concerns.

Reflection

Students reflect on the content and purpose of their homework and class learning activities.

Knowledgeable

Homework should provide opportunities for consolidation of learning to meet the students' needs.

Open-minded

The diverse learning styles of individuals are accepted and encouraged.

Principled

Tasks set for homework must be relevant, interesting, enjoyable and have a real purpose, promoting good study habits. Children are encouraged to follow through in completing the set tasks within the given time.

Caring

A relaxed setting is encouraged where students', parents and teachers connect, share and communicate to gain a deeper understanding of current learning and opportunities for further growth.

YEAR LEVEL EXPECTATIONS

PREP

Homework in Prep will be minimal and will be in the form of a homework grid. The main focus for homework in Prep is the constant repetition of learning to support their literacy development. Activities will cover a range of learning areas and can include for example reading, sound work and show and share. A home reader will be introduced when children are developmentally ready.

YEARS 1 – 5

Fortnightly Homework Grid and Home Reading

The homework grid will include tasks to enhance the development of the basics in English (e.g. spelling) and Maths (e.g. tables, number work, operations). These tasks should be open ended to allow for the varying needs and abilities of the individual.

FORMAT

- Homework will be in the form of a grid for all year levels.
- The grid will be on one page, fortnightly to be handed out on Monday of first week and returned Friday of second week or for the whole term in Prep.
- Instructions on the grid should be in child friendly language.
- Reading should be done nightly from Prep through to Year 5. Reading should take a variety of text forms for example recipes, magazines, instructions as an alternative to books. Enjoyment and a love of reading are the aims.
- Homework will be devised and discussed as a year level team prior to being issued to students.
- At times, homework may be set by teachers in specialist areas. Year level teachers are to be informed at least a week in advance so that this task can be included on the homework grid.
- Homework should be marked and followed up by the class teacher, as it informs them about progress, areas of strength and deficit.
- Notice of due dates and upcoming deadlines (e.g. project work) should also inform homework as study time and preparation could form part of the homework grid.

- A section will be included on the grid that outlines things to remember and dates to note.

WHY A HOMEWORK GRID?

The grids were established in the Junior School following some research conducted into effective and productive homework that allows for the busy life of many of our students after school and on weekends. The grids are a way of emphasising diversity, family life and active pursuits for children. They will be presented fortnightly and allow for flexibility in when students complete the activities and student choice in varying the activities. It is also helpful for parents to have input into the grid activities. The learning experiences within the grid can be negotiated with the class teacher (particularly for students on individualised programs). There will be a compulsory section on the grid including the basics of literacy and numeracy. The other sections should provide a balance of learning areas which:

- are varied in nature
- make connections to class learning and inquiries
- are open ended
- may be written response or a verbal discussion

SUGGESTED TIME ALLOCATION

Prep	Generally not more than 30 min. per week
Year 1	Generally not more than 1 hour per week (approx. 10 – 15 min. per night)
Years 2 – 3	Generally not more than 1 ½ hours per week (approx. 10 – 20 min. per night)
Years 4 – 5	Generally not more than 2-3 hour per week (approx. 30 min. per night)