HOMEWORK

Purpose:
Homework is set for the following reasons:

a) It allows students to consolidate learning through independent practice.
b) Major tasks such as assignments can be spread over an appropriate length of time.
c) It encourages the development of appropriate study habits
d) It provides opportunities for learning time management skills
e) It provides opportunity for frequent and regular revisiting of schoolwork.

Nature and Extent:
The amount of homework set depends upon the type of subject and the year level. Homework can take a variety of forms which are not necessarily exclusive of each other. They include:

a) Written work to be completed by the next lesson or some other set date;
b) Learning work to be recalled at the next or subsequent lesson;
c) Revision work not specifically set by the teacher but part of the student's homework plan;
d) Practical work whereby students practise manipulation and other skills;
e) Preparation for lessons the next day, whether stated as a requirement by the teacher or left to the student's initiative.

In the Senior Phase (Year 10, 11 and 12) the amount of time devoted to homework and independent study will vary according to the student's learning needs and SET plan. The Education Queensland recommendation for Year 8 and 9 students is 5 hours per week. Parents of those students wishing to maximise their potential results may wish to consider the following study pattern.

e.g. Year 8 1 - 1.5 hours per night
Year 9 1.5 hours per night
Year 10 2 hours per night
Year 11 2.5 hours per night
Year 12 2.5 - 3 hours per night

Care should be taken to maintain a balance between the demands of study, sporting, recreational, cultural or part-time employment activities.

Study Planner:
All students are given a School Study Planner in which to record homework. This is to be used for school purposes only and must not be defaced. Should it be lost or defaced, it must be replaced by the student. Homework should be entered into the appropriate section each lesson. In addition, due dates for assignments should be shown in the study planner.

Students need to develop time management skills with respect to the homework and assignments set by:

a) being aware of due dates for assignments,
b) being aware of classes timetabled for the next day,
c) spending sufficient time each night on homework,
d) setting a weekly timetable for homework tasks, and
e) planning assignment work ahead.

Procedure:
Homework is checked by the teacher each time it is set, and is recorded in a mark book or electronically. If a student fails to do his/her homework, or fails to bring the correct equipment, the teacher is to ensure that the student catches up. At the teacher's discretion, the student may be detained to do so. After THREE non-completions of homework, the teacher makes contact with the parents/guardians (by letter or phone) and the student may be required to attend an extra class held outside class time.

Parents:
Parents can help their children in the following ways:

a) assisting in setting aside a suitable time and place for homework,
b) assisting in longer term time management, and
c) checking homework tasks completed against Student Planner entries.