

STELLA MARIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

POLICY: HOME LEARNING

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for home learning.

Procedures:

There are 2 parts to the Home Learning that the children will undertake.

Part 1: Compulsory Weekly Home Learning Activities

These activities need to be completed each week.

- **Daily Reading** – All children are expected to read daily. The Year 0-3 children will be given home readers by class teachers. Year 4-6 children will select their own reading material from the school or public libraries, books at home, newspapers etc. Details of their reading are to be entered into the reading log in their Home Learning Diaries.
- **Basic Facts** – Daily practice of Basic Facts – this can be done through Mathletics and using the Maths “Bubble Sheets.”. If a child does not have access to the Internet for Mathletics at home class teachers will ensure they have regular access in the class.
- **RE** – RE activities will be set when required as part of the programme. These need to be returned to school the following day, unless otherwise stated.
- **Information gathering** – the children may be asked to collect information to use as part of their inquiry at school.
- Home Learning Diaries will be checked by teachers.

Part 2: SHINE Challenge

SHINE is an acronym for “**S**trength and **H**eart In **N**ew **E**ndeavours”

The SHINE Challenge is an optional challenge for year 2-6 students that provides a variety of endeavours that the children complete throughout the year at their own pace. It also recognises the many activities that they participate in outside of school and encourages participation in new endeavours.

There are 5 categories:

1. Living the Marian Values
2. Service in School or the Community
3. Physical Activity and the Outdoors
4. Academic Excellence
5. Excellence in the Arts

Each of the categories has a selection of challenges for the children to choose from. There is a minimum number of challenges for each year level, but the children may complete more if they choose to. They must complete at least one challenge from each category but may then “major” in the area of their preference. If they complete the SHINE Challenge successfully by October they will receive an award at the end of the year.

YEAR LEVEL	Minimum number of challenges to be completed
Year 2	6 challenges
Year 3	7 challenges
Year 4	8 challenges

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Year 5	9 challenges
Year 6	10 challenges
NB: There is no maximum number of challenges.	

As the students complete each challenge they will present their evidence/reflections in a manner that they choose and share their achievement with their class teacher and classmates. The evidence could include their planning, a “photo journal”, notes made in their Home Learning book, slide show or another form of their choice. The children will need to work with parents and teachers as they plan and carry out the tasks.

POLICY REVIEW DATE

This Policy will be reviewed according to the Board’s Effectiveness Review Programme

_____ Chairperson

_____ Date