At St Ita’s the purpose for assigning home learning tasks is:

- to encourage opportunities for the students to review and reinforce learning that is initiated in the classroom
- to develop effective study habits
- to promote connectedness with the school through serving as one form of communication between school and home

We believe that homework should not cause family stress or jeopardize the right of children to enjoy a balanced lifestyle. Our approach supports the importance of family time, relaxation and play and acknowledges the varied outside of school hours’ activities in which the students participate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Amount of time that you may expect your child to spend on home learning tasks</th>
<th>Learning tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Parents are encouraged to read to their children daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 1-2</td>
<td>15 mins daily Mon-Thurs</td>
<td>Reading to/with/by parents or caregivers Preparations for oral presentations e.g. Show &amp; Tell Review &amp; reinforce sight words/spelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>20 mins daily Mon-Thurs</td>
<td>Reading to/with/by parents or caregivers Preparations for oral presentations e.g. Show &amp; Tell Review &amp; reinforce multiplication facts/spelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 4-5</td>
<td>Up to but not more than 2.5 hrs per week. Homework may be completed daily or over a weekly/fortnightly period</td>
<td>Independent daily reading Review &amp; reinforce multiplication facts/spelling May include extension of class work &amp; working on assignments which are carried over from classroom work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years 6-7</td>
<td>Up to but not more than 3 hrs per week. Homework may be completed daily or</td>
<td>Independent daily reading Review &amp; reinforce multiplication facts/spelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over a weekly/fortnightly period</td>
<td>May include extension of class work &amp; working on assignments which are carried over from classroom work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A variety of online resources and tasks are used to reinforce skills (e.g. Lexiles, Spelling City, Study Ladder) and optional activities are also available for students via class blogs and the school website. The students are encouraged to read for pleasure on weekends and holiday periods. Homework does not form part of the assessment and reporting process.

**Responsibilities of the students:**

- To always aim high and take pride in your work
- To take responsibility for all necessary materials required for homework tasks
- To bring completed homework to school by the due date
- To talk to your parents and teacher if you are having difficulty with your homework

**Responsibilities of the teachers:**

- To encourage self-responsibility on the part of the students
- To communicate homework expectations to the students and parents
- To ensure that the resources required for homework tasks are easily obtained by the students
- To provide ways for parents to communicate with teachers about homework
- To discuss homework practices with year level colleagues to ensure consistency at each year level
- To ensure that no new concepts or skills are introduced through homework
- To select homework tasks that reinforce classroom learning
- To affirm positive attitudes to home learning

**Responsibilities of the principal:**

- To ensure that homework expectations are consistent with the school’s homework policy
- To facilitate the communication process between school and home and support home/school partnerships in relation to homework
- To facilitate a two yearly review of the school’s homework policy
Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- Reading to them, talking with them and involving them in tasks such as shopping, cooking, games and physical activities
- Encouraging them to organize their time, gain independence in being responsible for their homework folders, diaries etc. and being responsible for their learning
- Encouraging them to read and take an interest in current events
- Helping them to monitor and balance the amount of time spent on completing homework, watching television, using social media, playing computer games and engaging in physical and other recreational activities
- Affirming and celebrating their learning successes