**How Can I Support My Child’s Learning ?**

This is a concern often raised by parents. Your child’s report will have informed you of their working levels in reading, writing, talking and listening and, within Broad General Education from S1 to S3, we look to build in opportunities for them to progress and improve their skills in all of these areas.

This should be reflected in the standard of homework your child produces and submits.

You can support your child by encouraging them to –

* Be aware of any targets they have been set by their teacher for a specific piece of writing.
* Use any support sheets and exemplification provided by teachers to show pupils the standard they should be aiming to achieve with a particular piece of work.
* Be organised and leave plenty of time to complete a homework assignment so that they have time to ask their teacher for help if they need assistance to complete their homework on time.

In S1 – S3, word limits tend not to be given for extended pieces of writing, as the important thing to focus on is the development of skills and specific on this aspect of homework assignments.

St. Stephen’s High School

English Department



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Homework Guidance

for Parents

Broad General Education S1 – S3

One reality of your child’s school career here at St. Stephen’s is that of having to do homework.

In the English Department, we aim to set a significant piece of homework once per fortnight, with supplementary assignments set as necessary at other times.

**These will be recorded in your child’s planning diary, with a short description of the task and, most importantly, the due date for the assignment.**

This could be in the form of –

* Comprehension questions on a text, or a close reading exercise,
* A short grammar exercise, focussing on the application of a particular language feature which they should then apply to their own work,
* Completing a section of a first draft of an essay,
* Redrafting a corrected piece of work,
* Research for a talk, a presentation or a report,
* Finding an article or information from a newspaper or the internet or
* Reading a particular text, or a part of a text.

Substantial pieces of homework will rarely be assigned for the following day, but there may be occasions where a short piece of work may need to be completed in a short time frame.

We encourage our students to read widely, as this has obvious benefits for their literacy skills in reading, writing, talking and listening not only in English, but across the entire curriculum.

**If your child has no other homework set, they could be reading a book of their choice, to help them develop important literacy skills.**

