



HOMEWORK POLICY

RATIONALE

Homework provides children with the opportunity to develop the skills and consolidate concepts learnt in the classroom. It enables parents to involve themselves directly in their child's learning program and remain informed about their progress. Homework should enhance the child's growing independence as a learner and develop self-discipline and organisational skills.

PROCEDURES

At the beginning of each year classroom teachers will outline expectations and procedures:

- Teachers will inform parents of classroom homework expectations during the parent information session held at the beginning of the year.
- Completed homework is acknowledged and marked accordingly.
- Homework may be given allowing for student and parents to plan homework time around their commitments.
- Homework should meet the needs of the students.
- Reading is an integral part of homework. This may be a formal or informal activity.
- Teachers will notify parents if there are any issues relating to their child's homework. And conversely, parents are encouraged to meet with the classroom teacher if there are issues relating to their child's homework.
- Homework will not be given as punishment or used as a means of securing discipline.

GUIDELINES

Homework may be given up to four nights of the week for approximately half an hour. This may vary according to the student's ability and age.

Reading for pleasure and reading to your child is an integral part of your child's academic success. Parents are encouraged to schedule reading as a part of their child's homework program.

The following Guidelines provide ideas for appropriate homework activities and suggested time allocations.

ECE

Homework is guided by what is set by the teacher.

Suggestions:

- In the early stages of your child's reading development your child may need to have *you* read their home reading books to them.
- Your child should read orally until they have gained independent reading status.
- Parent discusses the story and asks questions about what has been read.
- Parents sign reading card
- Child practises sounds.
- Children may be expected to practise spelling at home as well.
- Children with special needs may have some specific homework programs developed in consultation with parents.

Years 3, 4 and 5

This homework will take about 15 – 20 minutes.

Reading may be set by the teacher.

Your child may select a book to take home to read from available reading material, or may be asked to select from personal / library books.

Suggestions:

- Child reads silently at first
- Child reads parts or all text aloud.
- Parent discusses the story and asks questions about what has been read.
- Basic + - x / facts. Tables practise as much as possible.
- Teachers may set specific mathematics activities when the need arises.
- Neat writing and printed presentation is expected with all written homework.
- Spelling – children may be required to revise spelling.
- Children with special needs may have some specific homework programs developed in consultation with parents.

Year 6

All children complete approximately 30 minutes of homework each evening.

Suggestions:

- 10 minutes basic + - x / facts practice.
- 20 minutes silent reading from reading texts or personal / library.
- Reading aloud to parents could also be undertaken..
- Children may go over spelling words for 10 minutes.
- Teachers may set specific mathematics activities when the need arises.
- Children with special needs may have some specific homework programs developed in consultation with parents.

All Years

Teachers may require children to:

- Complete unfinished class work at home
- Undertake special research reading or projects. In this case the teacher will ensure that resources are provided and the project expectations and due date are clearly articulated in print. All set work will be marked.
- Locate current events items
- Practice sets of examples where the need clearly exists.

How Parents Can Help

The following suggestions are included to assist parents in providing an environment conducive to completing homework:

- Provide your child with a quiet time and place to do homework. Switch off the TV.
- Siblings need to respect that those engaged in homework should not be disturbed.
- Show a genuine interest in your child's homework and become involved, but refrain from doing it for them.
- Establish a homework routine and be aware of homework procedures e.g. reading folders, homework diaries, spelling journals etc.
- Ensure that your child has the tools necessary to complete the homework e.g. pens, pencils, calculator, ruler, eraser, glue, scissors, paper etc.
- Have an atlas and dictionary at home or accessible online.
- Be willing to make the occasional trip to the school and / or public library with your child.
- Keep in touch with your child's teacher, especially if difficulties are experienced.
- If you object to homework, please inform your child's teacher in writing that you do not wish for your child to be provided with homework.

An effective homework plan should assist your child to develop independent home study habits in order to achieve the highest possible outcomes.



<http://www.det.wa.edu.au/schoolsandyou/detcms/navigation/helping-your-child-learn/>

Reference



Department of
Education

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