

Homework Procedures

Homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practising, extending and consolidating work done in class. Homework provides training for students in planning and organising time and develops a range of skills in identifying and using information resources. Additionally, Homework establishes habits of study, concentration and self-discipline.

Objectives

Schools, in consultation with their communities, are required to develop a school Homework policy relevant to the needs of their students.

School Homework policies must be communicated to staff, students, parents and caregivers, particularly at the time of student enrolment.

Homework will meet the realistic expectations of students, teachers, parents and caregivers.

Quality

Research indicates that student learning may be enhanced if Homework is:

- appropriate for each student's age and ability
- relevant to each student's needs
- purposeful and designed to meet specific learning goals
- varied and challenging, but achievable
- built on knowledge, skills and understanding developed in class
- clearly stated and requirements made explicit during class time
- supported by teacher strategies for students having difficulties with homework.

Homework tasks should be assigned by teachers with a specific, explicit learning purpose. On completion, teachers should acknowledge student effort and provide feedback related to student learning.



Manageability

The quantity of Homework needs to be manageable so that teachers can ensure quality, and can provide feedback to students on completion.

Homework that is manageable for students will:

- be age appropriate
- consider students' outside of school hours commitments, such as sport, cultural activities, tuition, part-time employment and home responsibilities
- take into account students' access to resources and technology beyond school
- be clearly communicated to students
- provide some flexibility and options to allow for different student circumstances.

Communication

Communication and the provision of clear information between teachers, parents/caregivers and students is a requirement of an effective school Homework Policy.

The school's Homework Policy is available to the school community, particularly at the time of enrolment, but also on the school website and app. Parents/caregivers of students experiencing difficulties completing Homework need to be confident that these concerns can be discussed with the teacher, and that guidance and assistance will be provided.

What will Homework consist of?

All activities, at home or in play, can assist students in developing a wide range of knowledge and skills including literacy, numeracy and problem solving. It is also recommended that self-directed play in unstructured time is vitally important. Literacy and numeracy concepts can also be introduced and consolidated in many family activities.

As students progress, they increasingly work independently on their Homework, but it is important that teachers continue to provide guidance and assistance particularly in the development of study and research skills.

Kindergarten (suggested 10 minutes per night for Homework tasks)

- Home reading and P.A.I.R (10-20 minutes daily)
- Individual camera words
- Fortnightly news (Term 2 & 3)

Year 1/2 (suggested 10-20 minutes per night for Homework tasks)

- Home reading and P.A.I.R (10-20 minutes daily)
- Individual camera words
- Fortnightly news (Term 2 & 3)

Year 3/4 (suggested 20-30 minutes per night for Homework tasks)

- Spelling
- Reading (suggested 20 min daily)
- Mathematics
- History/Geography Grid
- Impromptu and public Speaking

Year 5/6 (suggested 30-40 minutes per night for Homework tasks)

- Spelling
- Reading (30 min daily)
- Mathematics
- History/Geography Grid
- Impromptu and public Speaking

Teachers will:

- Implement the school's Homework Procedures
- Communicate the purpose, benefits and expectations of Homework to students and parents/caregivers
- Acknowledge student effort in completing Homework and provide timely and relevant feedback on achievement
- Ensure resources and materials are easily accessible for students
- Support students having difficulties with Homework
- Discuss with students and parents/caregivers any developing issues regarding a student's Homework
- Discuss Homework practices with colleagues

EALD (English as an Additional Language/Dialect)

Initially, New Arrival students will have a special Homework booklet giving them the opportunity to become more familiar with language found in their school environment. Early beginning Phase lessons focus mainly on oral language acquisition. Emergent phase students require a modified Homework program until their understanding of language allows them to complete set tasks with confidence.

Spelling lists in Stage 1 and 2 levels provide an opportunity to discuss the definitions of each word and in so doing, increase their vocabulary.

MiniLit / MacLit

If a student is involved in MiniLit or MacLit, they are given a nightly home reader to reinforce reading and writing activities completed in their intensive reading class. This homework takes priority over all other Homework.