

HOMework POLICY

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits, and providing students with the opportunity to be responsible for their own learning.

PURPOSE & AIMS

Homework should:

- be appropriate to the student's skill level
- be interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open ended
- be balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- be assessed and supported by teachers where necessary.

GUIDELINES

- Homework is an opportunity for parents to participate in their child's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.
- Students benefit from completing homework regularly. Homework helps them develop organisational and time-management skills, self-discipline, skills in using out-of-school resources and personal responsibility for learning.
- Communication between parents and the school is an essential part of the parent/school relationship needed to provide children with the best opportunities. Communication can be maintained through a variety of means e.g. diaries, homework books, emails etc.
- As students move into the Primary and Middle Years, they should be responsible for organising themselves to complete homework independently.

IMPLEMENTATION

In the Early Years (Reception to Year 2), homework should consist of the following, Monday to Thursday:

- 10 minutes daily home reading to a family member
- Practise sight words or spelling words when given
- Occasional research task or finishing off task

In the Primary Years (Years 3, 4 and 5), homework will consist of the following, Monday to Thursday:

- 20-40 minutes per night
- Mainly consist of daily independent reading to parents/caregivers for 10-20 minutes a day. This may include book orientation and follow up discussions about the book or what has been read.



- Students may be required to complete unfinished or additional work to support their learning.
- Other activities may include research, open-ended and creative activities which may need to be completed, as well as skills related to organisation and planning.

In the Middle Years (Year 6), homework will consist of the following, Monday to Thursday:

- 50-60 minutes per night, Monday to Thursday
- Include 15-20 minutes of daily independent reading.
- Students may be required to complete unfinished or additional work to support their learning.
- May also include completion/extension of class work.
- Other activities may include research, open-ended and creative activities which may need to be completed, as well as skills related to organisation and planning.

EXPECTATIONS

Parents and caregivers can help their children by:

- Encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation
- Observing and acknowledging their success and asking how their home and class work is progressing
- Encouraging them to set aside a regular daily session to read and complete homework
- Avoiding completing their child's homework on their behalf
- Setting an example by reading themselves
- Helping children to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources. It is better to encourage children to complete homework themselves
- Helping children to balance the amount of time spent completing homework and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities
- Checking whether homework has been completed and by signing tasks where appropriate
- Discussing homework in their first language, where English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to their previous experiences
- Contacting the class teacher to discuss any problems their children are having with homework as soon as problems arise; this includes excessive amount of time to complete homework.

It is at the teacher's discretion to have students who do not complete set homework, make this up in their own time by using either recess or lunch to complete tasks.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Principal, on behalf of the School Board

Date: _____

Date Completed: V.4 Mar 2019

Date to be reviewed: 2022

Updated: V.3 2015

Updated: V.2 2012

Updated: V.1 2009

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