

## **HOMWORK POLICY**

### **Rationale**

The purpose of homework at a primary level is to reinforce skills and habits of learning and encourage students to be responsible for their own learning.

### **Aims**

Implementation of this policy will allow students, teachers and parents to participate in a homework program that will provide opportunities for students to:

- Regularly reinforce classroom learning
- Develop study habits, organisational and time-management skills
- Take increasing levels of responsibility for their own learning.

### **Homework should be:**

- Balanced in terms of demands between study and recreational, family and cultural activities
- Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- Assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided to students.

### **Implementation**

#### **General Guidelines:**

- This policy will be provided to parents at the beginning of each year
- Homework will not be expected to be completed on weekends or during holidays
- Types of homework set will include practice exercises, preparatory homework and extension assignments. See DET homework guidelines for descriptions and examples of each type
- There will be no direct consequences for non-completion of homework
- Parent signature on uncompleted homework is sufficient explanation for non-completion. However, teachers will discuss with parents if homework, particularly reading, is not being done regularly
- Students on Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) or in the Reading Recovery program may have individualised homework
- Homework will be set on a regular basis
- Teachers will use the information gained from reviewing homework to contribute to the teacher's knowledge of student progress and help to inform the teacher's practice in the classroom.

**Parents are asked:**

- To ensure that time is set aside for daily reading
- To ensure that time is set aside each week for other homework tasks
- To provide other practical supports and encouragement as needed
- To encourage independence and increasing levels of responsibility for homework tasks
- To adapt the homework level to their family's particular circumstances, philosophy, commitments, resources and student ability and motivation
- To discuss with the teacher if they find that homework is placing excessive stress and strain on family life
- Parents who believe their child needs further individualised homework are invited to discuss this with the teacher. Teachers will discuss with parents suitable activities that may benefit the student.

**Students are expected:**

- To complete homework regularly
- To take increasing responsibility for the completion of homework tasks

**Unit Guidelines**

**Foundation to Grade 2**

Level of parent involvement expected: high

Will generally not exceed: 10-30 min per week day

- Daily reading, by, with or to your child
- Activities to consolidate students' literacy and numeracy skills

**Grade 3 and Grade 4**

Level of parent involvement expected: moderate

Will generally not exceed: 20-30 min per week day

- Daily reading by, with or to your child (at least 20 min)
- Homework will include practice exercises, preparatory homework and extension assignments

**Grade 5 and Grade 6**

Level of parent involvement expected: low

Will generally range from: 30-45 min per week day

- Daily sustained reading (at least 20 min)
- Homework will include practice exercises, preparatory homework and extension assignments

**Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed after three years implementation. The following will be considered when evaluating this policy:

- Students', teachers' and parents' perspective on homework practice
- The most recent parent opinion survey and student opinion survey

## Reference

DET Homework guidelines and expectations:

Homework Expectations

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/expectations.aspx>

Homework Guidelines

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/guidelines.aspx>