

Homework Policy

Rationale:

Homework is defined by the Department of Education as *“any task assigned by school teachers intended for students to carry out during non-school hours designed to meet specific learning goals.”*

Homework is a purposeful learning experience which:

- allows for revision and/or consolidation, extension and/or enrichment of the learning program
- facilitates the development of planning, organisational and time management skills
- establishes work habit & study skills
- reaffirms home-school partnerships in education

Responsibilities:

Teachers will:

- communicate the purpose, benefits and expectations of homework to students and parents/caregivers
- set suitable amounts of quality homework related to classwork
- acknowledge students' effort in completing homework and provide timely and relevant feedback on student achievement
- discuss with students and/or parents any issues regarding a student's homework

Students will:

- be aware of the DEC's homework policy and the school's homework guidelines
- understand the importance and purpose of homework
- organise their time to ensure that all homework tasks are completed within the given timeframes
- ensure that homework completed is of a high standard

Parents will:

- ensure that students have appropriate dedicated time and space to complete homework
- encourage and support their children to complete homework
- take an active interest in their children's homework
- communicate with teachers any concerns regarding their children's homework

Homework Guidelines:

The type and amount of homework set should be manageable and averaged over a four night period with the exception of Early Stage 1.

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)

Conforming to the Department of Education guidelines – ‘In general, students are not expected to complete formal homework in Kindergarten.’ Students are invited to participate in the following opportunities:

- **Reading:** Home readers will be sent home three nights per week. These readers will be familiar to the students and matched closely to their reading level.
- **Maths homework:** Students will have access to complete Mathematics work that provides opportunities for review and practise of the topics in the class program.

Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

- **Spelling homework:** Students will use their individualised spelling lists to complete one spelling activity per week. Spelling homework will commence in Term 2.
- **Reading homework:** Students are expected to read for about 10 minutes each night. They may choose to read books from the library, personal books, or follow-up reading from classroom activities. Please set time aside to discuss this reading with your child.
- **Maths homework:** Students will be set Mathematics work that needs to be completed on the computer across the week.
- **Projects:** There will be a number of small projects set across the year. Students will be given a clear outline of the timeline for this project and what is expected. These will be changed from project to project.

Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

- **Spelling homework:** will come home weekly on a Monday and is expected to be completed and returned on a Friday. This will involve a Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check of their spelling words and completion of a small number of spelling activities. Information will be put into their homework book as this will vary across grades.
- **Reading homework:** takes the form of a reading log that is to be completed daily. Students are expected to read for about 15 minutes each night. They may choose to read books from the library, personal books, or follow-up reading from classroom activities. Please set time aside to discuss this reading with your child.
- **Maths homework:** Students will be set Mathematics work that needs to be completed on the computer across the week.
- **Research Assignments / Projects:** There will be number of small projects set across the year. Students will be given a clear outline of the timeline for each project and what is expected. These will be change from project to project.

Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)

Students will be supported to record and track homework using their diary in preparation

for more independent organisation of homework in high school.

- **Spelling homework:** will come home weekly on a Monday and is expected to be completed and returned on a Friday. This will involve learning their pre-test errors and personal words.
- **Reading homework:** takes the form of a reading log that is to be completed each week. Students are expected to read for about 15 minutes at least each night. They may choose to read books from the library, personal books, or follow-up reading from classroom activities. Please set time aside to discuss this reading with your child.
- **Maths homework** – Students will be set Mathematics work that needs to be completed on the computer across the week. Sometimes it may be necessary for teachers to send home uncompleted class work or additional practice of a particular skill.
- **Grammar and punctuation activity** – Each week students will have a grammar or punctuation task to complete. The activity will be revision from the topic studied in class the previous week.
- **Research question** – Each week students will be given a research question to complete.
- **Project/Mini projects** – During the term, students will complete a project and/or mini projects which using relate to our History, Geography or Science unit for the term.

Stage 3 students will complete their homework through the Department's Google Apps. Students will use Google Docs to complete homework and submit online to their classroom teacher by Friday each week.