



HOMework POLICY

RATIONALE

The current evidence and research shows that the quality of homework assigned is likely to be more important than the quantity. Overall, the effectiveness of homework is enhanced by providing students with choices among homework tasks, which will result in higher motivational and performance outcomes, students' autonomy, and intrinsic motivation (Patall et al., 2010).

Homework helps students by:

- complementing and reinforcing classroom learning
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning
- developing self-regulation processes such as goal-setting, self-reflection and time management
- supporting partnerships with parents by connecting families with the learning of their children.

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

Homework provides students with opportunities to practice skills, review content and deepen understanding of concepts learned. Homework is seen as one way of supporting and fostering life-long learning and connecting families with the learning of their children.

Homework is recommended. There are benefits from daily reading and spelling practice. This forms the basis of our school's homework.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTION

1. A copy of the Homework Policy will be distributed at the commencement of the school year.
2. Homework is to be purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum and needs of students.
3. Students in Grades 3-6 will use student diaries to provide a regular communication between parents and the school.
4. Students are to be given enough time to complete homework, considering home obligations and extracurricular activities.
5. Students will be provided with support regarding their homework.

6. Homework will include a wide range of opportunities for families to engage in their children's learning, e.g. reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity.
7. Students are to accept responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
8. Parents are to encourage their children to set aside a regular time and place to complete homework.
9. In Grades Prep to Grade 2, daily homework will include reading and spelling.
10. In Grades 3 and 4, homework will not exceed 20 minutes a day, this includes daily reading.
11. In Grades 5 and 6, homework will not exceed 30 minutes a day, this includes daily reading.
12. Homework will include reading (listening to reading, reading aloud, reading to your child, reading silently) and spelling (words/sounds, sight words, word sorts) on a daily basis for all grade levels.
13. Other types of homework may include:
 - *Practising of* basic maths skills, number facts and counting.
 - *Real life learning at home*, e.g. shopping, cooking, etc.
 - *Researching* for in class projects.
 - *Unfinished classroom activities* if required.
14. This policy is to be read in conjunction with DET policy and guidelines found at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/Pages/guidelines.aspx>
15. This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Reviewed: April 27th 2016

Ratified by School Council: 10th May 2016

